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A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD.

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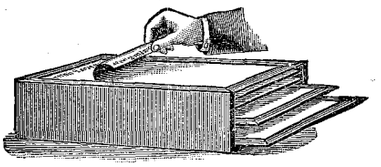

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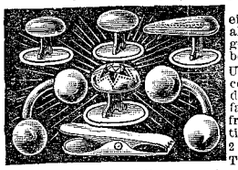

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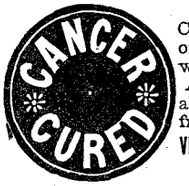

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

REPORT ON THE MAINE DISASTER.

THE report of the United States Naval Court of Inquiry into the loss of the battle-ship *Maine* was transmitted to Congress, together with a brief message from President McKinley, on March 28. The court spent twenty-three days in the work of investigation, and concluded that the primary cause of the destruction was a submarine mine. The court reported, first, that the *Maine* was taken to buoy No. 4, in from five and one-half to six fathoms of water, by the regular government pilot. Secondly, that the state of discipline on board the *Maine* was excellent, and everything had been reported secure at 8 o'clock on the night of the explosion. The ammunition, explosives, combustibles, medical stores, etc., had been properly stored, the temperature of the magazines, the state of the coal-bunkers and of the boilers precluded the possibility that the destruction could have been caused by them. The report then proceeds:

"The destruction of the *Maine* occurred at forty minutes past nine in the evening, on the 15th day of February, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, she being at the time moored to the same buoy to which she had been taken upon her arrival. There were two explosions of a distinctly different character, with a very short but distinct interval between them, and the forward part of the ship was lifted to a marked degree at the time of the first explosion. The first explosion was more in the nature of a report, like that of a gun; while the second explosion was more open, prolonged, and of greater volume. This second explosion was, in the opinion of the court, caused by the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines of the *Maine*.

"The evidence bearing upon this, being principally obtained from divers, did not enable the court to form a definite conclusion as to the condition of the wreck, altho it was established that the after-part of the ship was practically intact and sank in that condition a very few minutes after the destruction of the forward part. The following facts in regard to the forward part of the ship are, however, established by the testimony:

"That portion of the port side of the protective deck which extends from about frame 30 to about frame 41 was blown up aft and over to port. The main deck from about frame 30 to about frame 41 was blown up aft and slightly over to starboard, folding the forward part of the middle superstructure over and on top of the after-part. This was, in the opinion of the court, caused by the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines of the *Maine*.

"At frame 17 the outer shell of the ship from a point eleven and one-half feet from the middle line of the ship, and six feet above the keel when in its normal position, has been forced up so as to be now about four feet above the surface of the water; therefore, about thirty-four feet above where it would be had the ship sunk uninjured. The outside bottom-plating is bent into a reversed V-shape, the after wing of which, about fifteen feet broad and thirty feet in length (from frame 17 to frame 25), is doubled back upon itself against the continuation of the same plating extending forward.

"At frame 18 the vertical keel is broken in two, and the flat keel bent into an angle similar to the angle formed by the outside bottom plating. This break is now about six feet below the surface of the water, and about thirty feet above its normal position.

"In the opinion of the court, this effect could have been produced only by the explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 18, and somewhat on the port side of the ship.

"The court finds that the loss of the *Maine*, on the occasion named, was not in any respect due to fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of the crew of said vessel.

"In the opinion of the court the *Maine* was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, which caused the partial explosion of two or more of her forward magazines.

"The court has been unable to obtain evidence fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the *Maine* upon any person or persons."

Captain W. T. Sampson, of the *Iowa*, president of the Naval Court of Inquiry, has, since making this report, been appointed commander of the fleet known as the North Atlantic Squadron (off Key West) to succeed Rear-Admiral Sicard, who has been retired on account of ill health.

The President's message accompanying the report of the Naval Court of Inquiry did little more than review its findings. He detailed the circumstances under which the *Maine* was sent to Havana, by way of a resumption of friendly naval visits, and he referred to the aid promptly given by Spanish sailors after the explosion, and by the authorities of Havana in caring for the dead and wounded. He further said:

"The appalling calamity fell upon the people of our country with crushing force, and for a brief time an intense excitement prevailed which, in a community less just and self-controlled than ours, might have led to hasty acts of blind resentment. This spirit, however, soon gave way to the calm processes of reason, and to the resolve to investigate the facts and await material proof before forming a judgment as to the cause, the responsibility and the facts warranted, the remedy due. This course necessarily recommended itself from the outset to the executive, for only in the light of a dispassionately ascertained certainty could it determine the nature and measure of its full duty in the matter."

The President asserted that the court employed every available

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means for the impartial and exact determination of the causes of the explosion, adding:

"Its operations have been conducted with the utmost deliberation and judgment, and, while independently pursued, no source of information was neglected, and the fullest opportunity was allowed for a simultaneous investigation by the Spanish authorities."

The message concluded in the following words:

"I have directed that the finding of the Court of Inquiry, and the views of this Government thereon, be communicated to the Government of Her Majesty the Queen Regent, and I do not permit myself to doubt that the sense of justice of the Spanish nation will dictate a course of action suggested by honor and the friendly relations of the two governments. It will be the duty of the executive to advise the Congress of the result, and in the mean time deliberate consideration is invoked."

On the same date, March 28, the following [cabled] synopsis of the expected report of the Spanish naval commission, Captain Peral, president, was made public in Washington:

"The [Spanish] report contains declarations made by ocular witnesses and experts. From these statements it clearly deduces and proves the absence of all those attendant circumstances which are invariably present on the occasion of the explosion of a torpedo.

"The evidence of witnesses comparatively close to the *Maine* at the moment is to the effect that only one explosion occurred; that no column of water was thrown in the air; that no shock to the side of the nearest vessel was felt, nor on land was any vibration noticed, and that no dead fish were found.

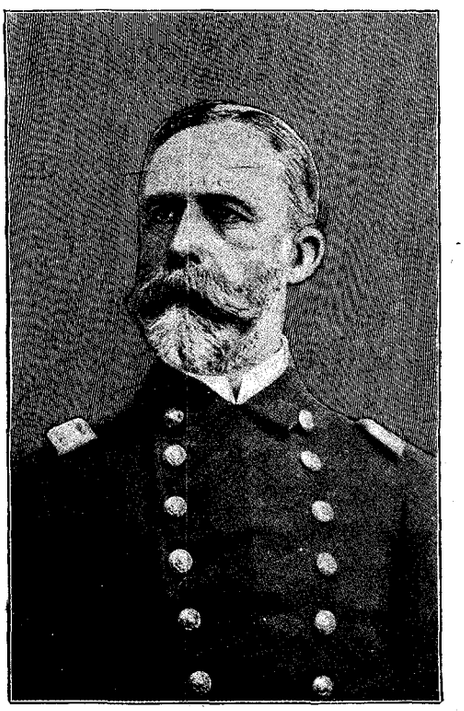
"The evidence of the senior pilot of the harbor states that there is abundance of fish in the harbor, and this is corroborated by other witnesses. The Assistant Engineer of Works states that after explosions made during the execution of works in the harbor he has always found dead fish.

"The divers were unable to examine the bottom of the *Maine*, which was buried in the mud, but a careful examination of the sides of the vessel, the rents and breaks in which all point outward, shows without a doubt that the explosion was from the inside.

"A minute examination of the bottom of the harbor around the vessel shows absolutely no sign of the action of a torpedo, and the fiscal (judge advocate) of the commission can find no precedent for the explosion of the storage magazine of a vessel by a torpedo.

"The report makes clear that, owing to the special nature of the proceedings following and the absolute respect shown for the extraterritorial rights of the *Maine*, the commission has been prevented from making such an examination of the inside of the vessel as would determine even the hypothesis of the internal origin of the accident. This is to be attributed to the regrettable refusal to permit of the necessary cooperation of the Spanish commission both with the commander and crew of the *Maine* and the different American officers commissioned to investigate the causes of the accident, and later on with those employed in salvage work.

"The report finishes by stating that an examination of the inside and outside of the *Maine* as soon as such examination may be possible, as also of the bottom where the vessel rests, will prove that, supposing the remains (of the wreck) be not totally or partially altered in the process of extraction, the explosion was undoubtedly due to some interior cause."



CAPT. WM. T. SAMPSON,

Commander of the North Atlantic Squadron.

The report of the United States court and the voluminous testimony upon which its findings rest were referred without debate to the committees on foreign affairs in the Senate and House of Representatives, and diplomatic negotiations regarding the whole Cuban question have, at this writing, assumed the most critical phase in their history. Meantime active preparations for war continue on the part of both Spain and the United States.

Convincing Report.—"The evidence marshaled by the court in its report is convincing. In a technical problem of this difficult and intricate character it would have been easy to confuse the chief issue with subordinate details. With skill and precision the court presents two facts which decide the occurrence of an external and internal explosion. The bottom of the boat was bent in and thrown up, the keel plates being lifted thirty-eight feet above their original position. The upper deck plating and main deck to port and starboard are folded back on each other in an irregular V.

"Only two causes could have worked this double reversal of the normal place of keel and deck plates—first, the explosion of a mine without the vessel, bending in the bottom, and, second, the explosion of magazines within the *Maine* doubling up her decks. Every other source of accident is carefully eliminated. The discipline of the vessel is proved to have been above reproach. Its magazines, its coal-bunkers, and the numerous sources and causes of spontaneous combustion and accidental explosion on a modern war-vessel are accounted for. With brevity, with simplicity, by indirect and direct proof, by demonstrating that no other cause existed, and by showing that only an explosion, both without and within, could have worked the ruin wrought, the Court of Inquiry has presented an unanswerable argument which will decide the verdict of to-day and settle the ultimate findings of history. . . .

"Whatever the answer of Spain, the United States can wait in the significant silence of the President, shared with equal dignity by Congress, making no charges and uttering no threats, aware that time and justice work together in a world where no life is sacrificed in vain and no duty done goes unrewarded in the arbitrament of fate. Those still entombed in the wreck, those buried in a soil alien—but not long to be under the shadow of an alien flag—and those laid to rest at home, all the dead and the living, all met death and duty with unshaken courage and discipline as unshaken. No cloud rests on them. Their record is clear. The land waits in armed silence and silent resolution to take whatever next step the act or utterance of Spain may render necessary to sustain the nation's honor and discharge its duty to brave men who died bravely in its service."—*The Press* (*Rep.*), *Philadelphia*.

Spain Responsible.—"It could have been only a submarine mine, the naval court solemnly declares, which dealt the *Maine* her first and fatal injury. It must have been a mine of tremendous power to rend through and through the double-steel plating of one of the strongest war-ships in the world. No novices could have planted an engine like that; no mere adventurers could have controlled and fired it. That mine must have been laid by trained Spanish hands. It must have come originally from the arsenals of the Spanish Government. These terrific weapons are not for sale off-hand. Only a few chosen agents understand their fabrication and their use; these are jealously guarded military secrets, infinitely less likely to be betrayed to public knowledge than the details of a contemplated campaign or the plans of an important fortification.

"For all practical effect Spain is as directly, immediately responsible for the destruction of the *Maine* and the fearful murder

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of her 266 brave men as if the names and the rank of the unspeakable assassins who wrought this Satanic work were blazoned on the angry heavens."—*The Journal (Rep.), Boston.*

"What Honor Dictates."—"In the chilly message which achieved the paradox of making Congress and the country instantly hot, President McKinley expressed his belief that 'the sense of justice of the Spanish nation will dictate a course of action suggested by honor.'

"More amazing than his childlike trust in the justice and honor of the nation that produced and glorified Pizarro, Alva, Cortez, Velasquez, and Weyler, was the President's obliviousness to the course of action dictated by *our* sense of justice and honor.

"It is now forty-five days since the *Maine* was treacherously blown up, and 266 of her brave seamen murdered in their sleep. And yet *no demand has been made upon Spain or upon the authorities at Havana for the discovery and punishment of the miscreants who did the deed*, or for apology for the unparalleled insult and reparation for the criminal wrong. Neither has Spain's 'sense of justice and honor,' in which Mr. McKinley trusted, dictated even an expression of regret from that Government. Señor Sagasta even makes the astonishing statement that the question of the loss of the *Maine* was not touched upon in the conference with Minister Woodford.

"Tardy tho the action will now be, our national honor dictates that this demand be made upon Spain without further delay. The *Maine* report, accepted as correct and final by our executive and Congress and by our people, brings this issue to the front. It is not merely a 'lamentable incident'; it is the chief count in the case against Spain. *It is in itself a cause of war* if not atoned for.

"A nation that will consent to have its ships blown up by submarine mines without demanding and enforcing instant reparation has no business with a navy. It should confine itself to growing crops, building railroads, gambling in stocks, and running Sunday-schools.

"Regardless of the question of Cuban independence, unless it be the crowning reason for interference, the *destruction of the Maine by foul play* should be made the occasion of ordering our fleet to Havana and *demanding proper amends within forty-eight hours, under a threat of bombardment.* If Spain will not punish her miscreants, we must punish Spain.

"This is what any other great nation would have done weeks ago. It is the dictate of honor and justice. And every hour that it is delayed adds to the disgrace and the humiliation of the United States."—*The World (Ind.), New York.*

Photograph by Prince.

MAJ.-GEN. NELSON A. MILES,
Commanding the United States Army.

"The 'Money Plank.'"—"Have you noticed how one word appears and reappears in the discussion of the situation by friends of the Administration? It is the word *buy*. We must *buy* independence for Cuba. We must *buy* the Cuban bonds. We must *buy* Spain's withdrawal from the island. Spain must *buy* exemption from the consequences of her crime.

"Listen to the sordid, cramped souls! Not a thought or a word above the greasy dollar. Not a sentiment that is detached from the lust for gold. Not an aspiration that can not be measured in dollars and cents. Not an injury that can not be bribed into silence. The money plank is the only plank in their platform.

"*Buy* did you say? Then *buy* something worth *buying*.

"*Buy back our dead. Buy* back the men whom you, Mr. McKinley, sent to Havana to be murdered in their sleep. *Buy* them out of the mud of the harbor where their bodies lie rotting. *Buy* them out of the trenches of a foreign graveyard. *Buy* life for them. *Buy* solace for their mothers, who weep for the boys who will never return. *Buy back our dead.*

"*Buy* back your courage and your patriotism, Mr. McKinley.

"*Buy* back the power to defend the right. *Buy* back the Christian sentiments you learned at your mother's knee.

"*Buy* back honor for the flag.

"*Buy* back the national freedom that has been pawned to a tribe of leeches and usurers.

"*Buy* back the confidence of the people in their President. *Buy* the things that are worth buying.

"Can you do it? In your mind money is omnipotent. Can it, then, arouse the dead from their sleep? Can it make the murdered stand again under the flag? Can it do anything more than elect cowards to office and heal the wounds of money-changers?

"No, unfortunately. You may still stand on the money plank of your platform, Mr. McKinley. But the people of the United States will be neither bought nor sold. Their dead cry for vengeance. They heed no other call."—*The Journal (Ind.), Chicago.*

Foul Assailants of McKinley.—"There are those who had fondly expected that the President would recommend that upon the findings of the court war be declared against Spain instanter. They are disappointed. The President accepted the findings as the deliberate judgment of a board composed of patriots. If that board could find no *casus belli* in the wrecking of the *Maine*, how could he? Morally convinced that Spain was party to the dastard act, he would be nevertheless restrained from putting that conviction into form in history to be rebutted by future developments.

"The President went as far as any President would dare to go in communicating to Congress on such a delicate subject. Even so impulsive a President as Jackson would pause before provoking a war on a report which explicitly declares that the patriots making it could not fix the responsibility upon any person or persons. What would the jingoes have the chief executive of this country say? Would they have him set aside and discredit the solemn report of a board of their own naval officers to precipitate war upon no defined or supportable provocation?

"Wherein is the weakness or cowardice of the message? Does it not cover in full and in like spirit all the facts covered by the Board of Inquiry? Where in the report or in the evidence accompanying it may be found any slightest warrant for the use of threatening or belligerent language? Conscious of his responsibility, not alone to the present but to the future, the President sagaciously, but none the less patriotically, said all that any patriot could say to make our history consistent.

"That he is animated by lofty patriotism alone is attested by his voluntary statement that he would rather see his party go to irretrievable defeat than to be the agency through which irre-

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sponsible war would come without justifiable provocation. The jingoes pounce upon the President much as the Cuban vultures descended upon the *debris* of the wrecked *Maine*. Their acts are not more inspiring than were the acts of those foul birds which hung in expectancy above the bloated and festering corpses of our brave sailors as they rose from the dank depths of their ill-fated war-ship."—*The Journal* (*Rep.*), *Detroit*.

McKinley the Pilot.—"President McKinley, standing up modestly, but firmly and courageously, with self-poise, without self-assertion, in the midst of similar clamor and perhaps grosser misrepresentation and personal abuse, may not to his contemporaries and to-day seem so heroic a figure as that of Lincoln, justified by the event, established in history and idealized by the whole human race. But the conditions are notably similar and the resemblance is marked. Lincoln was not a fool, and was not drifting, tho the greatest orator of his time so denounced him, and evoked thereby the applause of an audience of earnest and sincere patriots. He was a pilot, and he steered. His hand was on the tiller all the time. President McKinley, whose amiability is such an offense to some people, and whose patience is decried as procrastination, is not drifting, either. His hand, too, is on the helm; he has not lost his reckoning, and he is not befogged. His course is definitely marked out, and he is manifesting neither weakness nor weariness in pursuing it. And he, too, may well answer the clamorous impatient who are shouting for immediate and decisive action: 'Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.' If it be so ordered by Providence that war must come, and that this people must be used as the flail wherewith to beat down oppression and tyranny and broaden the area of freedom and civilization, we may be sure that, so far as the executive action is concerned, it will be entered upon without unseemly haste, but with thoughtful deliberation; not out of passionate impulse, but from solemn sense of duty.

"The American people have great cause for thankfulness that in such a crisis as the present, when the danger is that hasty impulse may direct action, and the supreme need is of patience and cool deliberation, we have in the executive chair a man of such patient spirit, clear foresight, and undoubted courage as William McKinley. On the morning after the election in November, 1896, *The Tribune* said the people had reason devoutly to thank God for the triumph of honesty and law. To-day they may well thank God that the result of that election was to install at the head of affairs not only an honest and law-loving chief magistrate, but a man of patient spirit and saving common sense."—*The Tribune* (*Rep.*), *New York*.

"If the *Maine* incident stood by itself the report of the Board of Inquiry would furnish ample basis for enforcing tremendous demands upon Spain and for a declaration of war to that end if necessary. But profoundly sensational as it is, the report now transmitted to Congress can hardly be said to affect the current of events more significantly than to fix beyond question the course of this Government, which was so plainly defined before its publication that the whole world has accurately anticipated it and we believe approved it. Intervention for Cuban independence had already become a fixed purpose of the Government of the United States, and the execution of this purpose will carry with it satisfaction for the destruction of an American battle-ship and the slaughter of American sailors."—*The Commercial* (*Rep.*), *Louisville*.

"If the United States does not make the most prompt and rigid demands on Spain for redress of this grievance and enforce a speedy compliance with those demands, then in the future this country will not be respected among the nations of the earth, and any straggling freebooter that so desires may make our navy the butt of his insults. We must have the value of our ship and we must see the men hanged who caused its destruction. Spain can find these men if she so desires. They are in Havana and probably in authority there; they must be found and properly punished before American honor will feel itself appeased."—*The American* (*Dem.*), *Nashville*.

"Spaniards can not conceive that such a board as that sent by our Naval Department to Havana could have found that the *Maine* was destroyed by an internal explosion. This is unfortunate for the reception of the report of American officers, which convinces American readers but only excites the sneers and contradiction of Spanish authorities. If possible the Spanish Government will seek to use a dispute over the destruction of the *Maine* to delay the settlement of the whole Cuban question. The American people look with confidence to President McKinley to press the whole matter to immediate and final settlement."—*The Evening Post* (*Ind.*), *Chicago*.

EX-MINISTER PHELPS ON INTERVENTION.

HON. E. J. PHELPS, formerly Minister to Great Britain, and one of the counsel for the United States in the seal controversy before the Paris tribunal in 1893, asserts that intervention by the United States in Cuba would be nothing less than a crime. He opposes intervention as a violation of international law and bad policy as well. His views, in the form of a letter containing about four thousand words written to ex-Governor Levi P. Morton of New York, were published in full in the New York *Herald*, March 29. His statements have attracted much attention because of the writer's professional standing, and by reason of the fact that most authorities previously quoted on the subject seem to be contradicted by him (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, March 5 and April 2).

Mr. Phelps dismisses the *Maine* disaster from the problem, now that the Board of Inquiry has made its report, "as no complicity on the part of Spain in that calamity is found to exist." If a claim for reparation on the ground of negligence should arise, it would be a proper subject for arbitration and, in his judgment, almost the only case in which international arbitration is likely to be useful. Mr. Phelps avers that international law is something more than what a nation chooses to make it on any particular question. He says:

"There seems to be an impression among unreflecting people that what is called international law is merely a scholastic science, of no practical importance, and to which Americans are quite superior. They do not perceive that it is as impossible for a nation to make a law for itself in its relations with other countries as it is for an individual to do so in respect to his own conduct in the community in which he lives.

"The fundamental principles of international law have been established by the general concurrence of civilized and Christian nations, because found by long experience to be both just and indispensable. Hence they derive even a higher sanction than always attends the law that is enacted by legislatures or promulgated by judges.

"Every government is alike bound by these principles, for the sake of its own protection as well as for that of others, and the general peace, and is under an implied covenant with mankind to observe them. If a nation departs from them, it violates this agreement, sets itself against the enlightened opinion of the world, does what is universally conceded to be wrong, and establishes the dangerous precedent which, sooner or later, with unfailing certainty, will come home to itself. No nation can afford to take such a course. . . . . .

"It is the general agreement of mankind, instructed by experience, which the world can not afford to see rejected, that has established the proposition that no cause whatever, except the necessary self-defense of a nation's material interests, or of the national honor, which is its highest interest, can justify forcible interference in the affairs of another country with which it is at peace.

"The proffer of mediation or of friendly assistance may always be made. It may be accepted, or declined, by the government to which it is addressed. But when declined, the attempt to intervene by force of arms is a crime, the sad and bitter consequences of which have been demonstrated on many a page of history. And especially, and above all, does this apply to the case of interference in aid of an armed rebellion against another government by its citizens.

"The idea that this country, or any other, is justified in undertaking a moral or political supervision over the affairs of its neighbors, and in correcting by armed invasion the faults of their institutions or the mistakes of their administration, or administering charity to them by force, is absolutely inadmissible and infinitely mischievous."

Turning to the examination of what intervention will mean, and upon what grounds it is claimed that we ought to intervene, Mr. Phelps asserts that "Spain is a friendly nation and always has been." He insists that the efforts of this Government to suppress filibustering expeditions have been always ineffectual, and that "a twentieth part of the naval force which we are now ran-

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sacking the world to collect for what are called 'purposes of national defense,' would have put an end to the only source from which the rebellion has been kept alive." Regarding the matter of liability he asks: "If Spain must guarantee the safety of our ships in her ports, whether herself in fault or not, we must equally guarantee to her that armed expeditions to subvert her Government shall not be fitted out and despatched in ours. And if negligence in the one case is the criterion of liability, it must be equally so in the other." Contrary to other authorities on the facts and the consequent position of this Government, Mr. Phelps declares that self-defense is not involved:

"In this quarrel between Spain and her rebel subjects, without reference to its merits, and conceding to the insurgents all the virtues which are supposed to attend rebellion against constituted government except when it attacks our own, have we in the first place any interest of our own that justifies interference, under the right of self-defense?

"That claim was at first put forth on the score of the interruption of our commerce, but it has been abandoned. It is too well settled to admit of dispute that the inconvenience and loss suffered by the commerce of neutral States when war exists, tho often considerable, constitute no ground for intervention, but must be borne. The loss of Great Britain in this respect is much greater than ours.

"When in our Civil War the Southern ports were blockaded by the federal fleets very great loss to the commerce of other nations ensued, especially in the important staple of cotton. Yet no suggestion of interference by those nations on that account arose or would have been tolerated. It must be conceded then, and except by interested newspapers is conceded, that we are under no necessity of self-defense against Spain in any definition of the word, nor have we any right to vindicate or wrong to redress that entitles us to interpose by arms in support of the Cuban rebellion."

Mr. Phelps then takes up the question of intervention on the ground of humanity. We quote this part of his letter in full:

"The final ground on which the preachers of aggression plant themselves is, that we must go to war for humanity's sake. It has generally been supposed that it was for humanity's sake that war is chiefly to be avoided, and that the cause of humanity can be in no other way so well served.

"It is true that international law recognizes as the sole and rare exception to the rule above stated in respect to intervention, that a nation may interfere where to prevent unjustifiable slaughter and outrage in another country it becomes absolutely necessary. But this exception, which has very rarely been acted on, applies only in extreme and very clear cases, and has no application whatever to this case.

"It is worth a moment's consideration to understand distinctly what the demands of 'humanity' in the present case are, and what they are likely to bring to pass if complied with. Are they a reason, or an excuse? a motive, or the pretense that conceals a motive?

"The suffering that it is said we are called upon to redress by fire and sword is the destitution that has overtaken a part of the Cuban people, with which has been depicted in the most inflammatory colors. They are those who are called the reconcentrados —people whose homes, plantations, and industries have been destroyed in the course of the rebellion, and who are now gathered in temporary shelters provided by the Spanish Government.

"How came these people in that condition, and who wrought the destruction that brought them to it? They are represented to us as a body of patriots who are 'struggling for freedom,' and whose property and livelihood have been destroyed in that struggle. If this is true, then the reason for our interference in behalf of rebels against their government is, that they have not succeeded, are getting the worst of the contest, and are thus reduced to distress.

"No one pretends that Spain had not the right to put down the rebellion. The complaint is that she has not put it down. If these people are to be regarded as rebels and their condition is truly depicted, it would seem that it results from their own fault, and that the contest, so far as they are concerned, has come to an end. Nor can it be maintained than any cruelty or outrage is visited upon them by the Spanish Government, or that their destitution results from any other cause than the poverty that the civil war has occasioned, as it generally does, and the inability of the Government to relieve it fully.

"But this statement of the attitude of these people in great part is true. While it is difficult to ascertain the exact facts in a case where all the evidence comes from one side, and the advocates of that side are their own witnesses, enough appears to show that their claim must be taken without much allowance.

"It can not be pretended that the reconcentrados have been generally engaged in the rebellion, or that a large part of them have ever taken the field, or fired a shot in its support. They are not now prisoners of war, as they would be had such been the case, but refugees from the ravages of the real insurgents, thrown upon the protection of the Spanish Government, under whose orders they are thereby brought.

"It is a notorious fact, that throughout the war the devastation of the homes and plantations of these inhabitants has been perpetrated by the rebels who are in arms, and who have levied contributions in the way of blackmail upon the people so long as they had anything to respond with. If they had been brothers in arms of the rebels, the rebellion might, perhaps, with their assistance have succeeded. They would at least have escaped the persecution they have suffered, whatever they might have encountered from the Government.

"It is undoubtedly true that the Spanish Government has likewise destroyed houses and plantations, and driven inhabitants from their homes, in pursuit of what it deemed a military necessity, just as in our own Civil War Sheridan ravaged the valley of the Shenandoah and Sherman laid waste Georgia. Such measures are the unhappy accompaniment of war, and especially of civil war; and those who engage in it must expect its natural consequences. If the distress caused by these means is a ground for intervention, we would feel called upon to interfere in every rebellion that occurs and does not immediately succeed. Tho the question would still remain, On which side?

"The distinction between armed intervention and charity is clear enough to be better understood than it is. The one is the assertion of a belligerent right; the other, the voluntary offer of kindness and humanity.

"Who, then, are the real insurgents? They are a body of men of uncertain number, who keep out of sight, who have no capital, or abiding-place, or attempt at organized government (unless in a Junta in the city of New York), mere guerillas and bandits, who have been carrying on what they call warfare by crimes not recognized as war in any civilized country; by destroying the homes and industries of the people of the island not in arms, until it has become a desolation; by blowing up with dynamite trains which contained only peaceable travelers, and murdering in cold blood a Spanish officer bearing under a flag of truce the offer of autonomy.

"Their force is made up of Cubans, negroes, renegades, and adventurers of all sorts from the United States and elsewhere. Is theirs the cause we are to take up? Can it be claimed to be the office of humanity to drive out the established government of the island, the only government there is there, and to turn over the population to the tender mercies of such a band as this.

"What would become in such an event of the reconcentrados? If their voice could be heard, is it conceivable that they would desire the establishment of a government in the hands of those who have already destroyed their substance? Had that been their desire they would long ago have joined the rebels.

"If these people are suffering, as no doubt they are, whether from their misfortune or their fault, by being thus ground between the upper and the nether millstone, let us continue to relieve them as we have begun to do; as we sent relief to famine-stricken Ireland, and charity to Armenia. If that is what is meant by intervention, we shall not differ about its propriety. But whatever their necessity, it is not to be assuaged by bloodshed, or by carrying fresh calamity to them at the expense of a greater calamity to ourselves.

"A single million, or a few millions, out of the many hundreds that war would cost us, would amply answer the purpose, and would gladly be received by Spain, as well as by those who need it. Let us put a stop also to the expeditions from our country on which the rebellion is fed. Let it be understood that we shall not fraternize with the banditti who have made Cuba a desolation, and the conflict and the crime that have exhausted it will soon come to an end. The humanity of peace is better and more fruitful than the humanity of war."

Referring to intervention as a national policy, Mr. Phelps condemns it on numerous grounds. He calls attention to "the cow-

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ardly character of an unnecessary attack by this great and powerful Government upon a comparatively weak and impoverished nation"; to "a derangement of business now just beginning to emerge from a long and ruinous depression; to a probable debauching of the currency of the country by throwing it on a silver basis." "Is the success so hardly obtained in the last Presidential election now to be needlessly thrown away?"

"An enormous expenditure from a treasury whose expenses already exceed its income by more than fifty millions a year; indefinite millions a year to be added to the pension list, already, in its saturnalia of fraud and extravagance, the curse and the shame of the country.

"Can we afford all this? What taxation is to pay for it? And what have we to gain for it in return? The injury that could be inflicted upon us by Spain would be trifling in comparison with that which we should inflict upon ourselves. In the present condition of our affairs do we owe no duty to our own people? Are there not reconcentrados in our own cities, that numberless army of unemployed because business is checked and paralyzed by these continual alarms?

"If the infinite calamity of war and the unspeakable crime of unjustifiable war are to be averted, it must be through the self-assertion and patriotic effort in this crisis of the best class of American people, in the best sense of that term—men who are not afraid to be opposed to any war which is wrong; who will not listen to the suggestion that the fortunes of any political party are to be furthered in the next election by drawing the country into such a war; who are not frightened by clamor nor by apparent majorities which would speedily turn out to be minorities if they were resolutely faced."

The considerations set forth in Mr. Phelps's letter have been heartily commended to the public in general terms by the New York *Evening Post*, the Boston *Herald*, and several other conservative newspapers; but the letter has been more generally criticized than commended in the press. The critics insist that even if Mr. Phelps is sound in his exposition of international law, he is mistaken about the facts in this case.

The New York *Tribune* commends study of Mr. Phelps's "conscientious and cogent contribution to the great debate," but insists that this Government's efforts to keep obligations of neutrality have been creditably efficient. It refers to the *Virginius* affair to refute the statement that cause for quarrel has never existed, and suggests that the question whether he would justify the inevitable consequences of a refusal on the part of Spain to permit work of mercy. The New York *Times* argues that the danger of internal tumult in this country if freedom be not given to Cuba warrants intervention as a matter of self-protection. The Springfield *Republican* says: "Mr. Phelps strikes the real question at issue when he comes to consider the present war in Cuba on its humanitarian side."

"Mr. Phelps admits, then, that even under international law, of which he is a professor, there may be intervention in the internal affairs of another state if the conditions are extreme enough to justify it. This is a very important concession for him to make, and it reduces the whole controversy to a simple one of fact.

"Realizing this, Mr. Phelps thereupon sets out to show that no condition of affairs has existed in Cuba, or to-day exists, justifying the application of the law of intervention on humanitarian grounds. . . . We have great respect for Mr. Phelps, yet his statement of the condition of the reconcentrados does not tally with the simple facts, as we understand them. These people are not refugees from the 'real insurgents,' and they were not 'thrown upon the protection of the Spanish Government.' They were forced into the fortified towns by Weyler's inhuman decree and there penned up like criminals by the hundred thousand. It was Spain's duty to feed them, after having placed them in the towns, and not let them die like rats from famine. Mr. Phelps is wofully wrong in his statement. The destitution of the reconcentrados is not the necessary result of civil war. Had they been fed by the Spanish Government they would not have died by the scores of thousands, and if they had been left on their lands they would have eked out an existence of some sort, even if harried by the opposing armies. Suffering there would have been if they had not been concentrated, yet when Spain assumed the responsibility of herding them in the fortified towns she also assumed the obligation of feeding them. But she left them to starve, and hundreds of thousands have died under 'the protection of the Spanish Government.'

"Regarding the insurgents Mr. Phelps is very scornful, and upon this part of his letter no comment is necessary. He should be corrected, however, as to the death of Colonel Ruiz. That emissary of General Blanco did not offer autonomy to Gen. Victor Aranguren, under a 'flag of truce.' Mr. Phelps calls the insurgents 'mere guerillas and bandits who have been carrying on what they call warfare by crimes not recognized as war in any civilized country'; their force consists of 'Cubans, negroes, renegades, and adventurers.' Again he describes them as the 'banditti who have made Cuba a desolation.' For Weyler, for the Spanish guerillas and Spanish atrocities of any description Mr. Phelps has no word of condemnation.

"Then he takes the position that the United States has only to stop filibustering and the insurrection would cease. Mr. Phelps has only to read what a brother professor in Yale, Theodore S. Woolsey, has to say on this point. Professor Woolsey has declared that our Government has fulfilled all its obligations to suppress violations of our neutrality laws with fidelity to its treaties and to international law. And more than that no government could do.

"Mr. Phelps's opinion that no intervention would be justified is based evidently upon the facts as he understands them, and we are free to say that we should entirely agree with him if we understood the facts in the same way. Altogether, Mr. Phelps's letter is amazing in its ignorance of the actual conditions in Cuba, its intense bias against the insurgents and in favor of the Spaniards, and its pitiful lack of breadth in discussing a question which has been in our politics for about eighty years."

THE NEBRASKA FREIGHT-RATE DECISION AGAIN.

THE scope of the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Nebraska freight-rate case seems to have been misapprehended in many instances because of a misleading abstract given through the press. Principal points of this decision were given in THE LITERARY DIGEST, March 19. Publication of the full text of the opinion has induced much comment on the far-reaching principles involved, and very radical differences of opinion have been expressed. The Indianapolis *News*, which we quoted March 19, in criticism of the apparent dictum of the court that the people must pay interest and dividends on a vast amount of watered stock, now declares that it did the court a great injustice. "On consulting a full report of the decision," says *The News*, "we find that the court decided no such thing."

"The court expressly said:

"'If a railroad corporation has bonded its property for an amount that exceeds its fair value, or if its capitalization is largely fictitious, it may not impose upon the public the burden of such increased rates as may be required for the purpose of realizing profits upon such excessive valuation or fictitious capitalization; and the apparent value of the property and franchises used by the corporation, as represented by its stocks, bonds, and obligations, is not alone to be considered when determining the rates that may reasonably be charged. . . . Stockholders are not the only persons whose rights are to be considered. The rights of the public are not to be ignored. . . . The public can not properly be subjected to unreasonable rates in order simply that stockholders may earn dividends. If a corporation can not maintain such a highway and earn dividends for stockholders, it is a misfortune for it and them which the constitution does not require to be remedied by imposing unjust burdens upon the public.'

"This language is explicit, and it destroys entirely the point to our criticism—a criticism which was based on insufficient information. There can be no question as to the soundness of the court's ruling on the main question, and we are glad to know that the rule which it laid down to be applied in such cases is so entirely unobjectionable. The court is in line with the best thought of the day on this subject."

Shortly after the decision was handed down, Governor Leedy, of Kansas, issued an interview, said to have been approved by Chief Justice Doster of that State, criticizing the Supreme Court savagely, and denying the soundness of the court's construction of the word "person." He said in part:

"But I deny the soundness of the basis upon which the decision of the court rests. That basis is the construction given to the word 'person' in the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. Justice Harlan says that a railway corporation is a 'person' within the meaning of that word as there used, and upon that assumption he builds up his theory that railways are within the protection of its term.

"I deny it, and so will everybody but a corporation lawyer or a subservient judicial tool of corporate interests. What is the Fourteenth Amendment? I want to quote it for the benefit of the clackers and lickspittles who have never read it, but who will

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nevertheless now shout their approval of this monstrous perversion of its meaning. . . . . .

"Everybody outside the asylum and off the federal judicial bench knows them to be—and to only be—natural persons. They are those who, besides the capacity to hold property and enjoy legal protection, also have life, and can enjoy liberty, and that means human beings. They are those spoken of in the first sentence of the amendment as 'persons born or naturalized in the United States.'

"The Fourteenth Amendment was born of the war, and had for its object the protection of the recently emancipated negroes, and the white people of the South who had remained loyal to the Union. All the lawyers, excepting those engaged in the business of making law for corporations say this. . . . . .

"Nobody but a slave or a knave will yield assent to the hideous distortion of meaning which Judge Harlan gives to the word 'person' as used in the Fourteenth Amendment, and upon which he bottoms his infamous decision, and which shows to what depths of iniquity the Supreme Court of the United States has descended."

It is to be noted also that *The Railroad Gazette*, New York, offers the following criticism:

"If the court has meant to say that this statute was unconstitutional in 1893, but may be constitutional in 1898, we have met with a decision in the Nebraska case that we have never met with in any other. If the court has meant to say that the statute is not unconstitutional, but can not be enforced under the facts as they existed in 1893, yet may be enforced some time in the future when circumstances change, we have a proposition equally novel, to wit, that a law may be enforceable to-day, but not to-morrow, enforceable to-morrow but not next day, enforceable perhaps one year, but not the next year, and so forth, forever. If we once depart from the principle that a law unconstitutional when it is passed remains unconstitutional forever, we are landed into a condition of things that no man can understand, provide for, or provide against."

The Review of Reviews and the Springfield *Republican* quote the following letter from a distinguished Western man, showing the nature of widespread dissent from the doctrines laid down in Justice Harlan's opinion:

"I wonder if I am mistaken in regarding the recent decision of the Supreme Court, written by Judge Harlan, on the Nebraska maximum-rate law, as a more dangerous one than either the Dred-Scott decision or that on the income tax? The Dartmouth-College decision attempted to take corporations out from under the police (regulative) power of the State by construing franchises as contracts. This decision seems to me to rule that frauds, like watering stock, and extortions like excessive charges, committed under those charters, are also contracts. The Austrian Government made reductions in the adoption of the zone system on the state railroads of Hungary, with the result of an increase in traffic and in the economic and therefore social, and even spiritual, happiness of the people. Had these roads been owned by private corporations, and had there been on the bench a judge so ignorant of economic law as not to know that a reduction of rates may mean an increase of revenue, this great step forward could have been prevented. When the State of Iowa passed laws reducing the railroad rates, it was frantically predicted by all the railway experts that the result would be not merely a decrease of revenue, but the absolute ruin of the roads. Governor Larabee has shown that the roads were made more prosperous by the reduction in rates. This is, indeed, in harmony with a law of railroad economy. Judge Harlan's decision would have prevented this reduction of rates and the benefits which have flowed from it to the people of Iowa and the corporations themselves.

"But something more serious still remains to be considered. Under this decision of Judge Harlan's the public authorities can be prevented from regulating the charges of any gas company, street-railroad company, or any other corporation or person doing public service, if it has a stockholder in another State, as, of course, all these corporations always do. There is, then, absolutely no help for the people through the exercise of their reserved powers of regulation and the inalienable right of 'police regulation.' The corporations have only to place upon the bench a man who is fool enough or servile enough to believe anything a corporation lawyer says about the effect of legislation or ordinance on the revenues of his concern to defy any interference with them whatever. This decision applies not only, of course, to attempted regulation of rates, but to any other regulation which has a financial effect. When, in a government of coordinate departments, did a court get the right to say of the act of the legislature that it was not 'due process of law'?

"The Supreme Court rules that corporations are persons under the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment. The corporations have added to them what must be almost the last privilege they could hope for—that of having all the privileges of personality but none of the responsibilities. They are persons in the eyes of our corporation-controlled courts who can have every possible privilege, but are never to be punished like ordinary persons. The income-tax decision seems to me a trifle by the side of this. This is a Dred-Scott decision which says that white men have no right that any corporation is bound to respect."

The Evening Post, New York, says that practically the most important point about the decision is that it makes the law plain and makes railway property more secure from legislative attacks. Concerning the theoretical basis of the decision *The Post* says in part:

"Down to the period of the Granger agitation it had always been assumed that railway property in the United States was protected against invasion by state authority, through the clause in the Constitution which prohibits interference with the 'obligation of contracts' (Art. 1, Sec. 10). This was owing to the authority of the Dartmouth-College case (4 Wheat., 518), according to which charters were contracts with which the States could not tamper. In the Granger cases, however, while this principle was neither overruled nor avowedly qualified, a new principle was resorted to which was adapted to impair most seriously the defenses of property against legislative attack. Under this ruling all property was held subject to a right of legislative supervision and regulation, provided it was 'affected with a public interest.' Many people suppose that the Supreme Court applied this only to railroads, on the ground that railroads were 'monopolies,' and had an arbitrary power over rates; but in reality they made it cover all property, whether in the nature of an exclusive legislative franchise or not, in which the public had an interest that the exactions of the property-owner should be reasonable. Munn *vs.* Illinois itself was not the case of a railroad, but of property invested in private grain-elevators. . . . . .

"The idea underlying the opinion in Munn *vs.* Illinois was that only such property was affected by a public interest as required an invitation to the public to put it to use, *e.g.*, a railroad charter, a ferry franchise, anything from which a toll is taken; but the fact is that the public has to be called in whenever a price for any property or its proceeds is to be got. The right to sell labor, or service of any kind, or food, or books, or newspapers, or to get rent from the use of land, is what gives the 'property' its life, and hence the logical deduction from the decision was that of a general legislative power to fix prices, or at least maximum prices, in all cases. That in this decision lay some of the seeds of the later development of 'Populism' there can be little doubt.

"It became very soon obvious that if the constitutional guaranties which protect the cities against the legislature were to be of any avail, and the position of the federal courts in our system was to be upheld, some way must be found to qualify the control over property conceded to it by the Granger cases. A long line of decisions, culminating in the Nebraska case, have been rendered which have gradually established the doctrine that while the legislature may regulate the charges to be exacted by the owners of railroads, elevators, ferries, and other property 'affected by a public interest,' they derive this right from the supreme 'police power' of the State, and must exercise it reasonably, so as not to violate those provisions of the Constitution which guard the citizen against being deprived of his property by a State without due process of law (Constitution United States, Fourteenth Amendment).

"Applying this principle to railroads, it follows that while a State can by legislation and through legislative commissions fix the rates at which persons and property shall be transported, if it fixes these rates at such an unreasonable figure as to operate as destruction or confiscation or deprivation of capital invested, the regulation is void and of no effect, and that this is wholly a judicial and not a legislative question; and, further, that such unjust regulation can be prevented by injunction.

"The importance of this conclusion can hardly be overstated. In the Nebraska case, tho the action was nominally against cer-

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tain officers of the State, the decision was in effect to uphold an injunction against the State itself, absolutely forbidding the enforcement of its whole freight tariff, on the ground of its injustice. It is true that the case leaves it open to the State to remodel its tariff and then apply to the court again; but if this is done, the final decision will still rest with the court. In other words, the state legislature can never in any case decide the question what it is reasonable for railroads to charge, so as to preclude a judicial examination of its action by the federal courts. It can not even leave the matter to its own courts, for in almost every conceivable case (as in this) some circumstance, such as a difference of citizenship in the parties, will arise, to give federal jurisdiction."

The Post, asking how the court will undertake to determine what are and what are not reasonable rates, answers, "by the same means that a perfectly just and omnipotent ruler would decide such a question." But *The Review of Reviews* questions the decision at this point:

"Under existing circumstances it is probable that the courts have taken a sound and a necessary position. But surely it is not a position of stable equilibrium. For upon a moment's reflection it appears that the federal courts have begun to take upon themselves not simply the question of deciding principles of law, but the practical business of regulating in detail from time to time all the rates of all the railroads of the United States. And under the same principle they must in like manner undertake the regulation of the practical business of street-railroad plants, gas companies, and all other enterprises of a quasi-public nature. It has been fully established that all such enterprises are subject to the public regulation of their charges and to a general public control and oversight. The authorities of the States may reduce charges under this principle of public control; but the courts now say that such action, whether on the part of legislatures, of state railroad commissions, or of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is not to be deemed conclusive in itself, and that all questions of fact and expert opinion, as well as of law, are properly subject to judicial review.

"There seems to be a fallacy somewhere in this position. It is certainly the business of the courts to say whether or not a law regulating railroad rates is valid and constitutional. But it does not seem to be the proper business of a court of law virtually to make and apply the regulations in detail. The opinion of a judge as to what is reasonable in a matter of that kind is not likely to be as good as the opinion of an expert body like the Interstate Commerce Commission."

SUFFRAGE IN LOUISIANA.

THE constitutional convention in Louisiana, called chiefly for the purpose of limiting suffrage so as to overcome alleged evils arising from the negro vote, has adopted a clause containing, besides educational and property qualifications, a provision for hereditary suffrage. This provision, known as Section 5, was declared to be unconstitutional by United States Senators and Representatives from the State, and was opposed on this ground by leading newspapers in the State; but it seems to have been finally adopted as the best compromise measure between conflicting factions. A summary of the new suffrage clause appears in the newspapers as follows:

"It admits to the suffrage those who can read and write and who demonstrate their ability to do so by making written application for registration in the English language or in their mother tongue, in the presence of the proper officials. It also admits illiterate persons who own property assessed at not less than $300. The much-controverted section 5 provides that suffrage shall not be denied to male citizens having neither education nor property if they were entitled to vote in any State prior to January 1, 1867, or if they are sons or grandsons of such persons twenty-one years of age at the date of the adoption of the new constitution, or if they are persons of foreign birth who were naturalized prior to January 1, 1898, provided that, in all cases, they shall have resided in Louisiana for five years next preceding the date at which they apply for registration, and provided also that they register before September 1, 1898. The poll-tax qualification provides that no one less than sixty years of age shall be permitted to vote, unless, in addition to the other qualifications, he shall have paid on or before December 31 in each year, for the two years preceding the year in which he offers to vote, a poll-tax of $1 per annum; but this section will not become operative until after the general state election in 1900, and power is given to the legislature to be chosen in 1908 to repeal or modify it. A further provision makes age and residence the only qualifications of taxpayers as voters upon all questions submitted to the taxpayers, as such, of any municipal or other political subdivision of the State, and permits women taxpayers to vote, in person or by authorized agents, at such elections without registration. Except as otherwise provided, the provisions of the suffrage clause will become operative on December 31, 1898."

Acceptable Louisiana Product.—"*The Picayune* is convinced that this suffrage clause perpetrates no discrimination upon the negroes, or persons of any other race and color, and in no way conflicts with the Constitution of the United States. These important provisions were adopted by a large majority of the convention, very nearly a two-thirds' vote having been given for the much-denounced section 5. . . . . .

"The suffrage clause adopted yesterday by the Louisiana convention is essentially a Louisiana product. It is modeled after the constitution neither of Mississippi nor of South Carolina; but contains provisions distinctively peculiar and unique. There is no reason to believe that it is open to attack either in Congress or in the Supreme Court of the United States, but that, on the contrary, it is in harmony with the federal Constitution. It is honest; it countenances and encourages no fraud, and creates no officials who are expected to perform questionable or dishonorable acts. This is one of the particular qualities that makes the suffrage cause acceptable to the great body of the people of Louisiana, and should commend it to good people everywhere."—*The Picayune (Dem.), New Orleans.*

Fatal Defects.—"The objections raised by the Shreveport papers to the suffrage ordinance we have already commented on at various times, but it is time to give succinctly the reasons given by them for refusing to accept the plan:

"1. It is undemocratic.
"2. It is un-American.
"3. It is unconstitutional.
"4. It is an insult to the native voter of the State, as it grants special privileges to foreign-born citizens denied to natives.
"5. It will divide the white vote and bring disaster to the Democratic Party of Louisiana.
"6. It will inaugurate a new movement for the repeal of this unwise suffrage.
"7. It will breed discord, discontent, and revolution and encourage strife and turmoil.
"8. It is an insult to the people, having been adopted in defiance of their wishes as expressed at mass-meetings and through the press.
"9. It is an insult to our Senators and to all our Democratic friends in the Senate, who were unanimously of opinion that the ordinance is unconstitutional, and who advised us against adopting it.
"10. It will bring the Louisiana question again before Congress and the courts, and stir up anew the troubles we escaped from in 1868-77.
"11. It may reduce our congressional and electoral representation.
"12. It buries the poll-tax, leaving it behind as a mere humbug with which to trick the people.
"13. It is framed against the interest of the people and for the benefit of the politicians, to entrench the city bosses in power and help the country politicians.
"14. It brings in as voters the hoodlums, hobos, vagabonds, and criminal classes, granting special privileges to the undesirable masses, who ought to be ostracised instead of enfranchised.
"15. It is, as the Shreveport papers declare, 'ill-advised,' 'objectionable,' 'offensive'—'a Pandora-box that will bring all manner of ills to Louisiana.'

"These are a few of the fatal defects in the suffrage ordinance to which the Shreveport papers call attention. There are many others that could be added to the list, and there are still others that will come to light should the ordinance ever go into effect; but the simple facts that it may involve Louisiana in another struggle with the United States Government, that it will divide the whites and split up the Democratic Party, and that it will breed 'discord, discontent, and revolution,' as one of our Shreveport contemporaries suggest, are ample reasons for its repudiation."—*The Times-Democrat (Dem.), New Orleans.*

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MR. BRYAN'S PROPAGANDA.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN is foremost among the advocates of the plan of political cooperation by Democrats, Populists, and Silver Republicans, which has been formally adopted as a working plan of campaign by the respective national organizations. Before the "addresses to the people" were given to the press (see THE LITERARY DIGEST last week), Mr. Bryan outlined a platform for the campaign of 1898 (the New York *Journal*, February 13), in a signed article which read in part:

"Cooperation does not contemplate the abandonment of party organization or the surrender of any political principles; nor is cooperation defended on the ground that the platforms of the three parties are identical. Campaigns generally turn upon a few issues, sometimes upon one, and events do much to determine which issue shall most absorb public attention.

"If the Democrats, Populists, and Silver Republicans were agreed upon but one question, that question might be important enough to justify cooperation, altho the parties differed on all other subjects; but those who advocate the union of the principal reform forces against the common enemy can point not to one, but to a number of reforms which are demanded with equal emphasis by Democrats, Populists, and Silver Republicans.

"First—They are unalterably opposed to gold monometalism.
"Second—They demand the immediate restoration of bimetalism at the present ratio by the independent action of this country.
"Third—They oppose the retirement of the greenbacks.
"Fourth—They oppose the issue of paper money by national banks.
"Fifth—They oppose the issue of interest-bearing bonds in time of peace.
"Sixth—They favor the income tax as a means of raising a part of the revenue necessary to administer the federal Government.
"Seventh—They favor the abolition of trusts.
"Eighth—They are opposed to government by injunction.
"Ninth—They are in favor of arbitration as a means of settling disputes between labor and capital.

"Here are nine issues which are not only important in themselves, but are now prominently before the people. Are not these reforms worth securing? These questions were submitted to the people at the last election, but they were not settled, and will not be settled until they are settled right."

For months past Mr. Bryan has been addressing large audiences in Western cities, and latterly in the South. In the course of a speech in New Orleans, he took occasion to refer to the income-tax decision, maintaining that when the bill was passed it was not unconstitutional, for a similar tax had been declared constitutional without dissent years ago, and the proposed law was not unconstitutional the first time it came before the Supreme Court. "It did not become unconstitutional until one judge changed his mind," said Mr. Bryan, "and we ought not to be compelled to know when a judge changes his mind." He asserted that Democrats have always been respectful to the courts, being careful, even in the last campaign, to say nothing so strong as the language contained in some of the opinions handed down by dissenting justices. Then, with the Spanish-Cuban complications in mind, Mr. Bryan made this turn:

"A Republican judge, Justice Brown of Michigan, was one of the dissenters. He wrote a dissenting opinion, in which he expressed the hope that the decision might not prove the first step toward the loss of our liberties in a despotism of wealth. He said that he feared that in some hour of national danger that decision might arise to paralyze the arm of Government, just at the time when the Government needed larger revenues for the protection of the nation's life. I wonder if Justice Brown could have had in mind such a condition as that which may confront the American people in the near future. Suppose for the sake of argument that this nation should become involved in a war with any foreign nation, what would be the result? Why, our imports would fall off, and as our imports fell off the Government's income would decrease just at the time when the Government needed it. What would be the result? In the hour of danger, the Government could lay its strong right arm upon every able-bodied citizen; the Government could call the son from his mother, and the husband from his wife; the Government could march its citizens out, and place them in front of the enemy's cannon, but it would be powerless to make an increase in its revenues. According to that decision, the nation would be powerless to subject wealth to its share of public expense. My friends, I know you will pardon the digression. I have simply cited this illustration to show you how justice can be done by law, and to give renewed emphasis to the declaration, to the principle which I first announced that in the making of a constitution of a state or nation, the Government shall have power to collect taxes with justice and that the greatest and the strongest and the richest shall be compelled to bear his share or leave the state."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

THERE is a fortune in store for the man that will invent a tireless bicycle.—*The Journal, Detroit.*

IT has now been fully demonstrated that it is simply a case of 0-onomy.—*The Leader, Cleveland.*

ANOTHER reason why we bought them, Mr. Sagasta, was that we had the money.—*The Free Press, Detroit.*

JUST at present Great Britain isn't looking for an alliance with any one who is likely to need help.—*The News, Detroit.*

A ST. LOUIS man has been arrested for stealing garbage. He has the material in him for an alderman.—*The Times, Denver.*

THE bribery revelations at Philadelphia make it proper that the place be hereafter known as the city of Boodlery Love.—*The Sentinel, Indianapolis.*

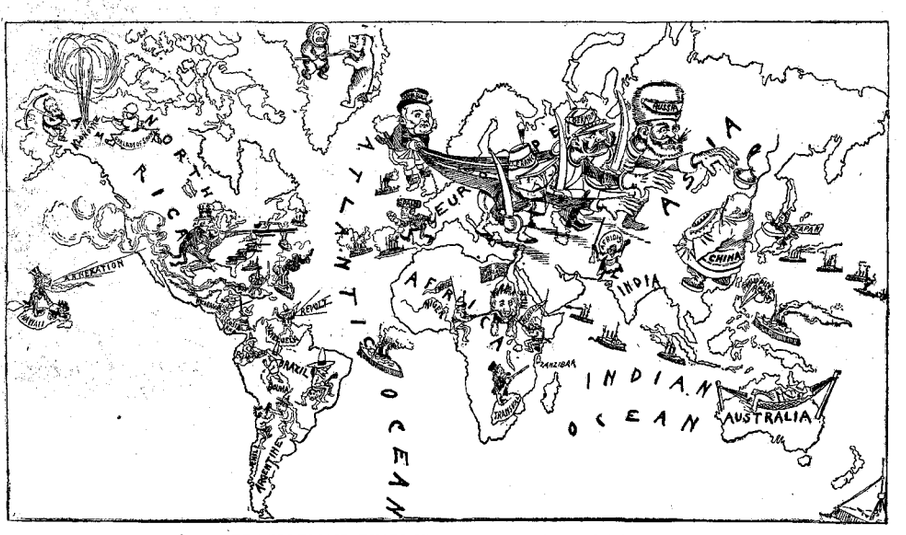
HOW wonderful is American inventive genius! A new currency-reform bill has been framed and it differs from all the others.—*The Dispatch, St. Paul.*

THE paths to fame are mysterious and diverse. Every now and then some city councilman becomes celebrated for having refused a bribe.—*The Star, Washington.*

"ON to Spain!" may be the cry ere long. Well, the world is getting on to Spain with every fresh report of the barbarities of her warfare.—*The News, Indianapolis.*

WHY will not Messrs. Leiter and Armour bury the hatchet and agree to a division of labor whereby one shall furnish bread and the other meat for the world?—*The Record, Chicago.*

STILL ANOTHER ORDER.—"What's this new patriotic order Smith has founded?" "Cousins of the Revolution. You see, Smith's great-grandmother promised to be the sister of a man who afterward fought in the War of Independence."—*Life, New York.*



TROUBLESOME TIMES IN THIS OLD WORLD OF OURS.

A bird's-eye view of the general situation.—*The Journal, Minneapolis.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

IBSEN AND BJÖRNSON—A CONTRAST.

WILLIAM HENRY SCHOFIELD has been paying a visit to Norway, where he made the acquaintance of Björnstjerne Björnson and of Henrik Ibsen. His personal impressions of the two men are recorded in *The Atlantic Monthly* (April) at some length. The first part of the article is devoted to Björnson, who is portrayed as a many-sided, sympathetic, imaginative, and truly poetic nature, with a wonderful power of concentration, frank and open-minded in dealing with strangers as well as friends. The second part of the article is devoted to Ibsen, and in the beginning of it a contrast is drawn between the two men. We quote the first few paragraphs:

"Could two men be more unlike than Björnson and Ibsen? Björnson, as we have seen, friendly, enthusiastic, outspoken, exuberant, fond of his family, interested in his fellows. Ibsen, reserved, cold, cautious, taciturn, never caught off his guard, always alone. Björnson has been called the heart of Norway, Ibsen its head. Björnson delights in being the center of an admiring gathering. Ibsen abhors the curious crowd. Björnson has always a word for every one; an opinion on every question, an eloquent speech for every occasion. Ibsen is one of the most uncommunicative of men: he has almost never been induced to address a meeting; he avoids expressing his opinion on any subject whatever. Björnson fills columns of the radical newspapers at a moment's notice. Ibsen keeps his ideas to himself, broods over them, and produces only one book every two years, but that as regularly as the seasons return. Björnson tells you all about his plans in advance. As for Ibsen, no one (not even his most intimate friends, if he may be said to have such) has the remotest idea what a forthcoming drama is to be about. He absolutely refuses to give the slightest hint as to the nature of the work before it is in the hands of the booksellers, tho the day on which it is to be obtained is announced a month ahead. Even the actors who are to play the piece almost immediately have to await its publication.

"So great has been the secrecy of the 'buttoned-up' old man (if I may be allowed to translate literally the expressive Norwegian word *tilknappet*, which is so often applied to him) that the inhabitants of the far-off Norwegian capital, who have, as a rule, but little to disturb their peaceful serenity, are wrought up to an unusual pitch of curiosity on that day during the Christmas-tide when Ibsen's latest work is expected from the Copenhagen printers. Orders have been placed with the booksellers long in advance, and invariably the first edition is sold before it appears. The book then becomes the one topic of conversation for days and weeks afterward. 'What does it mean?' is the question on every lip; and frequently no answer comes.

"'Why not ask Ibsen himself?' the foreigner suggests. A sympathetic smile comes over the Norwegian he addresses, who replies, 'You haven't been here long; but try it—there he comes now.' And in the distance I saw (for I was the innocent foreigner who, not having then seen Ibsen, ventured to make this thoughtless remark) a thick-set man, rather under medium height, wearing a silk hat and frock coat, his gloves in one hand, a closely wrapped umbrella in the other, approach slowly with short, gingerly steps. When he came opposite us, no impulse stirred me to ask the question, and instead I watched him, then as often afterward, make his way slowly down Carl Johans Gade, the main thoroughfare of Christiania, to the Grand Hotel, where at a fixed hour every day he drinks his coffee in a little room reserved for him, and reads all the Scandinavian and German papers to be had. Ibsen, I felt, was unapproachable.

"His unwillingness to speak of his own works is proverbial in Norway. No man ever was so loath to say anything regarding what he himself had written. It is thus he shields himself from the importunities of curious travelers and interviewers who plague him beyond endurance. Once I had the pleasure of attending a ball at the royal palace, at which Ibsen also was present; for, curiously enough, he seems to take delight in such festivities, where he is not expected to talk at length with any one, and where he can move about from one to another, greet his acquaintances, and gather impressions. Even at court balls, however, he is not rid of the importunate; and on this occasion it was a German lady who received one of those quiet rebukes to impertinence which have given him a well-merited reputation for silent reserve. Hardly had she been presented to him before she broke out into expressions of enthusiastic admiration, and finally wound up with the question which Ibsen has heard so often that he is now tired of it: 'Do you mind telling me, Dr. Ibsen, what you meant by Peer Gynt?'

"A dead silence reigned for a moment in the little group surrounding the old man, and I expected him to change the subject without answering the query. But no; he finally raised his head, threw back his shock of white hair, adjusted his glasses, looked quizzically into the woman's eyes, and then slowly drawled out: 'Oh, my dear madam, when I wrote "Peer Gynt" only our Lord and I knew what I meant; and as for me, I have entirely forgotten.'"

Ibsen knows nothing of French and English literature, nothing or practically nothing even of Shakespeare. The only language besides his own that he can read is German, and he will not praise the literature that he finds in that. "Yes, I have tried always to live my own life," he remarked to Mr. Schofield, after a long reverie, and *apropos* of nothing but his own thoughts, "and I think I have been right."

A PATRIOTIC AMERICAN PLAY.

MR. NAT GOODWIN, says *The Chap Book*, Chicago, has done an admirable and distinguished thing, referring, not to his recent marriage, but to his production of Mr. Clyde Fitch's new play, "Nathan Hale." "He has made for himself a position as an actor and an actor-manager which whole years of appearance in such pieces as 'An American Citizen' could not have brought about."

NAT GOODWIN AS "NATHAN HALE."

Of the play itself, *The Chap Book* proceeds to speak with hearty but discriminating praise:

"The play is the best thing Mr. Fitch has done since 'Beau Brummell,' his earliest. At no time since then has he come so near to pleasing critics and public alike—the play has been an unmistakable popular success. 'Nathan Hale' has unquestionable faults. It is not the heroic play one might have hoped for; it is frankly melodramatic comedy. Yet, on the whole, it is the most satisfactory American historical play we have had yet. 'The Devil's Disciple,' Mr. Bernard Shaw's curious, satirical revolutionary play, is, perhaps, more interesting to the few, but for the public it is only baffling and tantalizing. Mr. Fitch's effects are broad and, fortunately, never vulgar.

"No character in our national romance has had more charm or interest for the mass of people than Nathan Hale, and, basing his

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story on the few facts known in his life, Mr. Fitch has built up an exciting plot. He has added a love-story which becomes the main feature of his play, and which—in the stage version—is the real cause of Hale's capture. *Alice Adams* is at first one of *Hale's* pupils in the school he taught after his graduation from Yale—afterward she is his sweetheart.

"The first act, which is a mere prologue, shows their love-making in the schoolroom in a very pretty, light vein of comedy. In Act II., when every one else refuses to be a spy, *Hale* offers to aid Washington at this crisis by undertaking to penetrate the British lines and learn the plans for the attack on New York. Earlier, in a moment of enthusiasm, he had promised *Alice* never to risk his life unnecessarily. Hidden behind curtains, she has heard his offer, and she comes out of her concealment to hold him to his pledge. 'You could not love a coward,' says *Hale*. 'Yes,' replies *Alice*, 'if he were a coward for my sake.' *Hale* persists, and they part unreconciled.

"In the third act he is in the enemy's lines, disguised as school-teacher. One of the officers suspects him and plays a trick. He

MAXINE ELLIOTT AS "ALICE."

sends for *Alice*, saying *Hale* is wounded in the British camp and wishes to see her before he dies. He proposes to confront the suspected man with his sweetheart. Any recognition on her part means *Hale's* immediate arrest. She comes. *Hale* has tried to warn her of the trick. The audience is left in suspense. The girl comes on the stage—the soldiers are watching her face and *Hale's*. There is a moment of dreadful suspense. She stares at one after the other, and never changes countenance.

"It is an excellent scene—the supreme feature of the play—and a sigh of relief goes through the house. It lasts but a second, however, for *Hale*, crazy with passion, shows himself at the first opportunity, and is promptly arrested by the soldiers who have been watching him from the house. For the moment the audience is allowed to think he has escaped, for he knocks down two soldiers and clatters away on his horse with *Alice*.

"But the last act shows that they were captured by the second line of pickets. The scene is first in the tent where *Hale* is awaiting execution, then the orchard where he is hanged. The setting of the final scene is, perhaps, the most beautiful we have ever seen, and never did scenery more really play a part in a

play. There are but two speeches in the last act, and the whole effect is produced by the contrast of the sunlit orchard and the grim scene for which it is to be a setting."

ROMANCE OF THE IRISH STAGE.

(*Second Article.*)

When Kitty Clive came to the "Aungier" there was sensation in the circles of "the quality," and elation in the box-office. That voracious and delightful but "capricious minx" knew well how, at one time, to capture the women, in the cap and feather of a page, "bursting into song in season and out of season"—at another, to turn the heads of the rakes and dandies, as a singing chambermaid, or a bewitching widow:

"But tho living in an age when licentiousness was rife, and belonging to a profession which was the butt of scandal, her reputation remained unstained, and she was, as Henry Fielding expressed it, the best daughter, the best sister, the best friend imaginable. . . . Not only did her circle number Henry Fielding and George Farquhar, but it included Horace Walpole, Oliver Goldsmith, and Dr. Johnson. 'Clive, sir,' the Doctor would say, 'is a good thing to sit by; she always understands what you say.' And Kitty, smiling archly at the ponderous philosopher, would remark, 'I love to sit by Dr. Johnson; he always entertains me.' At times her temper was quick, and her tongue sharp, and she was wont to exchange violent passages at arms with her fellow players—with Quin, among the rest, whom she called her 'great bear,' and, later, with Garrick, of whom she spoke as 'Little Davy'; but her gusts of passion were soon over, and she delighted to remain good friends with all."

Dean Swift was a prominent figure in Dublin society at this period—only a few years before "the tree began to wither at the top." While he was, by his wit, the delight of polite circles, he

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was worshiped by the poor for his unstinted charities. Half his income, says Molloy, was devoted to the helping of needy families, and he reserved "five hundred a year," to lend to mechanics and laborers at the rate of five pounds at a time, which they were supposed to repay by instalments of two shillings; this was for the purchase of tools and materials for their work. Once he ran home from a fine party, through the rain, that he might give his cab-fare to a beggar he knew. Mrs. Delany describes him as "a very odd companion; he talks a great deal, and does not require many answers; he has infinite spirits, and says an abundance of good things in the common way of discourse."

While Quin and Susannah Cibber were mouthing and spouting and see-sawing at the "Aungier," Garrick came to Smock Alley with Peg Woffington; and on the 15th of June, 1742, Peggy (famous president of the Beefsteak Club) gave her brilliant impersonation of *Sir Harry Wildair*. "When this daughter of the

KITTY CLIVE.

people appeared, such a roar went up as made her heart beat, and brought tears to her eyes, so that she could not recover herself for some time."

Garrick played "Richard the Third" and "Hamlet," with Woffington as *Lady Anne* and *Ophelia*. The enthusiasm ran mad; women were carried out in hysterics, or stayed to shriek in their seats. A fever broke out in Dublin which was long known as "the Garrick fever," and the praises of Peg Woffington were sung on the streets by the ballad-mongers.

This was at the Smock Alley house in the summer of 1742. On the 7th of December the playbill at the same house announced an entertainment of rope-dancing, tumbling, vaulting, and ground-dancing:

"Mme. German performs on the rope with stilts (never done here). M. Dominique is drawn up forty feet high by the head, fires off two pistols, and is let down again in the same position. He also tumbles through an hogshead of fire in the middle, and a lighted torch in each hand."

When Tom Sheridan was at Smock Alley he came to blows with Theophilus Cibber, who seems to have been a most disreputable person. The quarrel assumed the dimensions of war between town and gown, the students of Trinity espousing the cause of Sheridan.

The students were a formidable body who delighted in riot and whose normal condition was disorder. The slightest interference offered to one of them sufficed to provoke the vengeance of all. The watch fled before them; "those who resisted were stabbed with swords or felled with the keys of the college, rooms which, being tied to the sleeves or tails of their gowns, the students used with terrible effect."

In 1744, a star of great brightness and beauty appeared in the dramatic firmament of Smock Alley. This was Spranger Barry —"tall, well-shaped, full of grace and dignity." For mere human beauty he was said never to have been surpassed. But his peculiar charm was in his voice. Arthur Murphy, the playwright, declared that Barry could wheedle a bird off the bush. "All exquisitely tender or touching writing came mended from his mouth."

We read of the beautiful Miss Bellamy, daughter of an Irish peer, and heroine of a hundred intrigues and escapades, arrested by bailiffs in her gilded sedan-chair; and of Dorothy Jordan, milliner's apprentice, who took the town by storm and made a dramatic romance of herself; and Dick Daly, "the young gentleman from Galway," who fought sixteen duels in three years, and lived to introduce Mrs. Siddons to an Irish audience.

Mr. Molloy's account of the condition of the stage, and of the social status of players in the middle of the eighteenth century, seems incredible to the British or American playgoer of to-day. The players displayed a sorrowful indifference to rehearsals; for those in the leading parts to attend at all was regarded as a condescension. The young men of the town came freely to the rehearsals; every wild, dissolute fellow, every licentious student, had the *entrée*, because none was so bold as to deny them. Victor relates that he has seen "actors and actresses rehearsing in a circle of forty to fifty of these young gentlemen." One poor canvas scene did duty in many plays of widely different periods; and it was not uncommon to see several of the personages of a Shakespearian tragedy in medieval costume, while others wore the dress of the time.

According to Sheridan, the theater itself was regarded as a common, and the players as cattle. One part of the house was a bear-garden, and the other a brothel:

"'Men of quality,' bloods, students, and coffee-house critics invaded the stage, actually mingling with the players, lounging at the wings, exchanging greetings with their friends in the boxes —in the midst of a performance. Every idler with a laced coat and a sword, every stripling who claimed acquaintance with actors or could afford a bribe, any bully who could rip out an oath and flourish a sapling, was sure to get admission behind the scenes."

When Sheridan was on trial for beating one of these gentry, the opposing counsel, squaring himself, told the court that he was waiting to see a curiosity. "I have often seen a gentleman soldier, a gentleman sailor, but never have I laid eyes on a gentleman player." "Then, sir," said Sheridan, "you see one now"; and the court applauded.

Says *The Speaker:*

"Mr. Molloy's extremely interesting 'Romance of the Irish Stage' confirms our impression that the brilliance of the Irish capital during the latter half of the eighteenth century was, like the light on graves, an unwholesome exhalation from the desolation and decay of the unhappy country. The immense sums spent in Dublin in wild and wicked dissipation were wrung out of the sweat and blood of a starving peasantry, and only the intervention of England saved the insolent aristocrats from the fate of the French *noblesse*. It is hard to say which was the more pitiable spectacle—that of the abject misery of the people from whom the money was wrung, or that of the bestial dissipation on which it was spent. 'Eight thousand tuns of claret were imported yearly,

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the bottles that held it being estimated at the value of £67,000'; and drunkenness was so universal and so reputable that 'judges felt no shame and received no censure for being on the bench in a state of intoxication.' Yet more revolting was the insolent ruffianism of members of the ruling caste toward every one on whom they could trample with impunity; while they showed a dastardly 'discretion' when they met their match. The poor players especially were as helplessly at the tender mercies of these young bloods as their starving tenants."

IS LITERARY GENIUS OPPOSED TO NATIONAL PROGRESS?

THE "evident decadence of France," from a commercial and political point of view, and her conceded preeminence in art and letters, are made the text of an interesting article by Charles Bastide, under the suggestive title of "Cacoethes Literarum." The literary training that the French leading classes receive, so the writer states, is calculated to render them unfit for active life. The fate of French democracy is still in the balance. Political changes occur with bewildering rapidity. "Out of all the institutions of old monarchic France, the French Academy alone has survived and proved stronger than many a popular rising or revolutionary outbreak." The genius for literary art and the genius for commerce and politics are, the writer maintains, antagonistic, and he develops this thought as follows (*Fortnightly Review*):

"Leaving aside for some moments the benefits that culture can be said to have conferred on the French nation, let us try to show the terrible disadvantages that it involves. Literature is like a strong medicine. Taken in small doses it is most beneficial; but when immoderately used, it has the effect of a most powerful alcohol. Let England with her wonderful idealist poetry and her commercial prosperity, paid for by the lack of artistic taste among the people, illustrate the truth of this proposition. France, on the contrary, distils in enormous quantities the potent drug, quaffs it with relish, and then offers it to all nations as an evident token that she deems it indispensable to their happiness. It would be a mistake to suppose that the providers of this poison are those writers of naturalistic romances and authors of erotic pictures who are constantly violating the ordinary canons of decorous morality; the drug that they offer is almost inoffensive in France, since it partakes very little of that artistic quality that makes a work dangerous to Frenchmen. Moreover, there is no necessary opposition between the political greatness of a nation and a literature devoid of a minimum cleanliness of thought.

"Pascal will help us to specify the general literary intoxication to which the governing classes are addicted. In his *Pensées*, he draws a distinction between what he rather fantastically terms *esprit de finesse* and *esprit géométrique*. There is a similar distinction between a literary and a scientific mind; while the latter has regard but for well-authenticated facts and always reasons on clear principles, the former loves to trace the remote consequences of a principle, or discover and appreciate the slight differences between facts. The one seems more analytic, the other more intuitive. If two such minds are supposed in the world of action, while the one clearly divines the one road that leads him to the end that he has in view, the other thinks he discerns at the same time many a by-path and turning, and, losing precious time before choosing his way, or even allowing himself to be overwhelmed with a mass of contradiction or detail, may ultimately decline to come to a decision.

"It is the prevalence of this *esprit de finesse* in France that prevents her from carrying out in the manner they would wish the program of the reformers. It is not before Notre-Dame de Lourdes or Sainte-Geneviève de Paris that the enlightened Frenchman bends his knee, it is not red-bonneted Liberté that he venerates, nor is it even, in spite of too recent and exaggerated scandals, at the shrine of the golden calf that he worships. The cherished omnipotent idol, to-day as sixty years ago, is literature."

The reason for this "strange national perversion," says Mr. Bastide further, is found mainly in the French educational system. Now as in 1830 French boys are taught above all how to write a good French style. Every fortnight for five or six years they have to write out a Latin and a French essay on a literary subject. When they proceed to the universities the preeminence of literature is impressed upon them more and more. The well-known critic draws crowds to his lectures in the great amphitheater, while the scholar of European fame lectures to half a dozen disciples, and one half of these are foreigners. Pasteur labored on for twenty years without recognition beyond a small circle of specialists, while Berthelot, thanks to his talent as a lecturer and writer as well as scientist, leaped immediately into fame and won the highest honors. To quote again:

"When the same ingenuous young student opens a daily paper, he finds that a large space is allotted to news about popular actors, and that the reopening of a theater under the management of M. Antoine is considered a more important event than a ministerial crisis abroad. As in his own tiny provincial town, the papers are full of local information, so in Paris, only a large provincial town at most, the papers give the Paris news and neglect the outside world. If, by some chance, the student further compares a French and an English newspaper, he may see that the French paper is especially literary. Next to a purely literary article—the *chronique*—signed by such men as Sarcey, Lemaître, or France, comes now a short skit by some humorist like Alphonse Allais, now a short story or a sonnet or two; and away down in the page the reader's eyes are sure to alight upon the *feuilleton*, which is a review of a new book or a new play, or more often a simple serial story."

Until a political party in France produces fine orators, it does not count for much. The Socialists never endangered the Ministry until M. Jaures became a Socialist. When a new cabinet is formed the literary merits of its members are first inquired into by the populace. Men who have learned to turn a sonnet and to follow the intricacies of a metaphor conclude that they are thereby rendered capable of leading and governing a nation.

The first stage of this French malady, this *litteraturitis*, as the writer calls it, was poetry, which ruled the French mind in the early days of the present century. Then the second stage was reached—romanticism. Now the third stage prevails—criticism, the most destructive of the three. To-day the critic is omnipotent. A minister is not more courted, and the critic's antechamber is the scene of intrigues more Machiavellian, than those in the lobbies of the Palais-Bourbon.

NOTES.

A LETTER from Stevenson to Barrie is published in the latest volume of the "Edinburgh Stevenson," in which he tells the author of "The Little Minister" that the story is "frightfully unconscientious," and that the story ought to have ended badly. "We all know it *did*, and we are infinitely grateful for the grace and feeling with which you have lied about it."

THOSE who share with a correspondent of *The Chap-Book* the idea that American authors are not successful in giving public readings from their own works will learn an interesting truth from J. B. Pond's reply, in which he says: "'Certain American authors' are giving public readings and have been at it since I can remember. As incredible as it may appear, his [*The Chap-Book* writer's] friend, F. Hopkinson Smith, has been for the past ten years one of the most successful 'readers from his own works' in the American lyceum. Ask in any city, North, South, East, or West, who is the most successful author-reader in America and who 'draws the largest audiences that have assembled in these cities,' and if they don't say 'F. Hopkinson Smith,' I do not ask you to ever believe me again. 'Mark Twain' and George W. Cable raked in a great haul in 1883-84,—thousands and thousands of dollars. Kate Douglas Wiggin made over $70,000 for kindergarten associations in about six years, reading her charming stories. John Kendrick Bangs and 'Chimmie Fadden' are now reaping double prices for their 'stuff,' first from the publisher and then from reading it 'out loud' to audiences who pay fifty cents, seventy-five cents, and one dollar. The above are a few of the American 'readers from their own works' that the public will pay to hear, because Americans are always glad to pay a hundred cents where they can get a dollar's worth, and not generally otherwise."

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

THOSE STORIES ABOUT PROFESSOR ELISHA GRAY.

FROM Professor Gray himself comes a justly indignant denial of the stories which the press have lately published about him and which we reproduced in our issue of February 19, under the title "The Inventor of the Telephone in Want." Professor Gray writes us from Highland Park, Ill., as follows:

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

I enclose an article from *The Electrical Engineer* and ask you to peruse the latter part of it. Your article in reference to me is accredited to *The Times-Herald*, of Chicago. I am a daily reader and contributor to that paper, and I never saw the article

you refer to. There was an article published in the New York *Herald* about six weeks ago from which all this stuff comes. So far as it relates to my private affairs—with which the public has no business—it is a tissue of lies.

I have denied this in several quarters, but no one publishes it. A lie has greater facilities for traveling than the truth. Everybody gives the lie a free pass, while truth has to pay its fare and overcome all sorts of obstacles.

You are at liberty to use this letter and enclosure if you see fit.

Yours truly,

ELISHA GRAY.

The article which the professor encloses is from *The Electrical Engineer* (New York, March 3). After referring to unfounded newspaper stories about Edison, it says:

"An equally flagrant case is that of Dr. Elisha Gray, so well known for his many electrical inventions and the organizing president of the International Electrical Congress of 1893. It has been given out with the fullest circumstantial detail that this distinguished man had gone all to pieces financially, and was in the sorest straits. The public was invited to gloat over his agonizing struggles to keep the wolf from the door. Then as a fine touch it was added that he was dying of it all. The whole thing is a most outrageous lie. It is true that Dr. Gray suffered from the panic of 1893 and the prolonged depression, but that has not been an unusual or exceptional experience, and the Doctor is not 'stripped of everything,' nor has he been cheated and swindled of every dollar; nor is he living in abject poverty, nor has he had to sell his art treasures, nor is he now taking boarders for a living. Dr. Gray occupies the same house that he has been living in for twenty-six years at Highland Park, Ill.; he is still surrounded by all his 'art treasures,' and his library is intact and just as sacred to his own use as it ever was. We believe the 'boarders' are his own daughter, her husband, and a grandchild, in whose company and sunshine the Doctor takes natural delight.

"The whole miserable story appears to have sprung out of a wish to boom some literary work that Dr. Gray had done upon invitation, for the newspapers, dealing with electrical questions in a serious of articles. The 'scare-head' way to interest the public was to write up, or rather 'write down,' the author, in a sensational and vulgar style, no matter how indignant he might be or how severely his friends' feelings might be hurt. We have no doubt Dr. Gray has protested vigorously against such abominable methods in the proper quarter; and we now venture to offer our own comments, merely adding in conclusion that one benefit of such annoying episodes must be to help prove to a man that if he is really undergoing trials there are some who will hasten to stand by him."

QUEER ELECTRIC ROADS FOR THE KLONDIKE.

THE unusual difficulties attending the transportation of passengers and freight to the newly discovered Klondike goldfields have already brought out a swarm of inventors who propose to circumvent these difficulties in all sorts of ways, more or less curious and generally decidedly impracticable. Some propositions, however, tho novel, have a degree of possibility, and it is asserted that attempts will be made to carry them out. *Electricity*, New York, describes a few of the plans as follows:

"If all the reports we hear are true, the coming summer should see the Klondike well equipped with transportation facilities. Several companies have already been organized and others are about to be formed for the purpose of constructing electric railways into that country. . . . Some time ago we suggested as the most suitable form of railway a single-rail electric road with the rail some distance above the surface of the ground. A company is now being formed in Seattle, so we understand, and plans have been prepared for an electric road which it proposes to build over the Skaguay trail, and which is to be erected after the manner we suggested. The track is to consist of 12-by-12-inch posts 6 feet high and 14 feet apart, on top of which will be strung two timbers 6 by 12 inches, and 28 feet long, on which a 30-pound steel rail is to be placed. The cars it is proposed to use are to be 15 feet long and 4 feet wide, having but two heavy wheels, each of the latter being equipped with a 15 horse-power motor. When in operation two cars will be joined together by heavy overhead beams and run one on either side of the rail, making practically one car. The bottom of the cars will be two feet above the surface of the ground, which will enable them, so it is thought, to successfully plow their way through any ordinary snow-drift. It is estimated that 1,000 feet of track a day can be built in Alaska at a cost not exceeding $5,000. Altho this would make a road cost $26,400 per mile, considerably more than the ordinary trolley, when the rugged nature of the country is taken into consideration this amount does not seem excessive. . . . . .

"Another company composed of American capitalists propose overcoming the difficulties of the Dyea trail in a rather novel manner, by means of an aerial railway. Steel columns thirteen feet in height will be erected one hundred feet apart, from the top of which wire ropes will be suspended which will constitute the track.

"Specially designed cars will be hung from this track by means of steel bars, each carrying two grooved wheels running on the cable. A lower cable attached to the vertical bar of the car will be used for propulsion, which will be accomplished by means of a stationary motor. The promoters' idea in building this railway, which will be but seven and a half miles long, is to afford a speedy and easy means of transportation over an exceedingly rough part of the route.

"The unusual difficulties attending the construction and main-

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tenance of an electric road in that part of Alaska require the adoption of extraordinary methods, and the next few months will therefore probably bring forth a number of unique systems of electrical propulsion."

DOUBLE STARS.

A FASCINATING study for astronomers and indeed for every one who has access to a telescope is the study of what are usually called double stars. These, as is well known, present to the naked eye the appearance of a single star, which the telescope reveals to be two stars, completely separated from each other. Many of the double stars are merely in the same range of vision, and these are termed optical doubles. The components of other double stars, as those who have studied elementary astronomy are aware, revolve one around the other, apparently under the influence of gravitation, forming systems known as binary stars. M. Camille Flammarion, who has done so much to popularize the science to which he has devoted his life, has lately been making a special study of some of these binary stars, and has given the result of his observations in the *Bulletin de la Société Astronomique de France* (Paris, February).

He measured the double star in the constellation Virgo, a star which is one of the brightest in the sky. He finds that it is now precisely in the position in which it was when observed by the famous astronomer, Bradley, in 1718. This proves that it has just completed one sidereal revolution, that is to say, one of its years. A year of this system of two suns is therefore equal to one hundred and eighty of our years. It is difficult, he proceeds to say, to contemplate this superb double star without thinking of the unknown beings which may exist there under conditions so entirely different from those on the earth. The planets which, it can not be doubted, he thinks, belong to this system have two suns instead of one. What singular years and seasons and days and nights these planets must have!

The two suns of the double star in Virgo, we are told by M. Flammarion, are by no means always the same distance from each other. They approach each other considerably nearer at some times than at others. They were so near together in 1836 that it was then claimed that the star is not a double one. They are separated from us, however, by an immense distance which is absolutely unknown. It may very well be, therefore, that even when they are nearest to one another, each may have a system of planets as vast as our solar family. He continues:

"So far there have been discovered about 115,000 double stars, of which the orbits of but twenty-five have been calculated. The length of these orbits varies greatly. One of them takes but a little more than five of our years to complete its sidereal revolution. From this the orbits run up, as has been seen, to nearly two centuries. There is in the constellation Andromeda, however, a star visible to the naked eye which the smallest telescopes show to be double. Seen through a powerful instrument, it is found to be triple. One of these suns turns around another in fifty-four years, and these two turn about the third. This last revolution it has as yet been impossible to calculate, but if it proceeds at the same rate at which it has gone on since 1777, when the third sun was observed for the first time, the revolution must extend to 360 centuries!

"It would be a mistake to classify all double stars under one head and to consider them as a separate class of heavenly bodies. They are of various kinds. Some are two suns of the same mass, the same light, the same temperature, the same relative age, as, for instance, the star in Virgo, which has been described, and most of the stars whose orbit has been calculated. Others show us an enormous sun, around which gravitates a much smaller star, as, for instance, Sirius. In other cases, we have a sun with an obscure star, the existence of which is known only by its eclipsing its companion, thus making the latter a variable star.

"One of the most remarkable characteristics of the double stars is the admirable colors which a number of them disclose through the telescope. It is next to impossible to give any idea of the beauty of these colors by any process of painting. To do that you would have to dip your brush in the rainbow and have for a canvas the celestial azure itself. It is to be remarked that the stars whose orbits are smallest do not present the same fine complementary colors as those whose orbits are longer. In general, both of the stars of those which make the most rapid revolution are yellow. Astronomers have inferred that in the systems with pale and analogous colors, the masses are the strongest. These have, as a general thing, a light of the same order as that of our sun. In the star in Andromeda to which allusion has been made as being resolved by the most powerful telescopes into three stars, one of these is orange, another green, while the third is blue. What a splendid jewel in the celestial universe, an orange, emerald, and sapphire diamond! another very beautiful colored double star is in the constellation Cygnus or the Swan, a star which the smallest instruments show to be double. The colors here are a golden yellow and lucid sapphire. . . . . .

"If the worlds of Mars, Venus, Jupiter, or Saturn differ so considerably from the world we inhabit, altho they are enlightened and fertilized by the same sun, how much more must these distant worlds in the depths of the sky differ from anything with which we are acquainted? In regard to these we can repeat, with even more truth than in any other case, the words of Shakespeare:

> "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,
> Than are dreamed of in your philosophy."

—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

PHYSICAL EFFECTS OF ATTENDING SCHOOL.

IN what way the bodily development of children is affected by their attendance at school has been closely investigated for years by Dr. Schmidt-Mounard, of Leipsic, who recently gave his results in an address to the Lehrer-Verein of that city. His results are as follows:

1. It is a difficult task to trace with accuracy what effect attending school has on the growth of children and on their increase of weight; but it is a fact demonstrated beyond reasonable doubt that children in the first year of school attendance gain less in weight and height than they do in preceding years, namely, only one kilogram [two and one-fifth pounds] in weight compared with four in earlier years, and five centimeters [two inches] in height compared with seven before; and that the average proportions in this respect are not again attained until in later years; and, further, that children who do not enter school until their seventh year are stronger and better developed physically than those who enter a year earlier.

2. Acute sicknesses are not caused by the fact that children must study, but are produced by defective hygienic schoolrooms. Lack of cleanliness, of fresh air and light, decrease the ability of children to resist the attacks of contagious diseases. This too becomes better in later years.

3. Chronic troubles, such as weakness, headaches, insomnia, and nervous disorders in general, are found to a much greater degree in schools of higher grade than in the elementary. They increase steadily in the case of girls to the age of puberty, frequently troubling as many as fifty per cent., while in the case of boys the highest percentage is thirty-five per cent. After that age, in consequence of the increase of weight, they decrease to twenty-seven per cent. in the case of girls. Eight per cent. of children about this age suffer from insomnia caused chiefly by social excitement at home. In the higher grade of schools for boys, especially when there are no afternoon recitations and the pupils are compelled to take exercise, the percentage of sickness varies from twenty to thirty-nine; while in the case of those schools where there are afternoon recitations and no enforced exercise, the percentage runs up as high as seventy-nine. Eighteen per cent. of boys in such schools complained of insomnia.

4. The cause of these troubles is to be found largely in the extra work assigned to children at home, such as drawing lessons, music lessons, and the like, as also to the fact that in schools physical exercise is not made compulsory as it should be.

The speaker closed his address with these words: "The children are not too weak for our schools, and for that reason should

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not cease to attend; but, rather, our schools make too heavy demands on the children, and for that reason these demands should be made lighter."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

TRAINING THE SIGHT.

IT is the opinion of Brudenell Carter, the eminent English surgeon, that the average acuteness of human eyesight can be very greatly improved by systematic training. In a paper read before the London Society of Arts on February 23, he urged parents and teachers not to regard sight "as a power or faculty which may be trusted to take care of itself," but to train it systematically by the aid of appropriate objects, and to test its quality from time to time, as is now done in the case of railway employees. In commenting on this address *The Hospital*, London, March 5, says:

"Travelers have told marvelous stories about the sight of many savage tribes, and, altho some of these stories may be received with incredulity, while others are explicable by the greater clearness of the atmosphere in the countries where they occurred, yet there seems no sufficient ground for doubting that the visual function, like every other, is capable of being improved by judicious exercise, and especially by such exercise as is afforded by the necessity of reliance upon its faintest indications. There is no reasonable doubt that the Siberian Tatar, who, when looking at Jupiter, told Arago that he had seen the big star swallow a little one and spit it out again, had really seen, with his unaided eyes, an occultation of the third satellite. Sir H. Truman Wood, in the discussion at the Society of Arts, spoke of an Englishman who could see some of the double stars; but it must be remembered that the Englishman could easily know what stars were double, and could, perhaps, fancy that he saw their peculiarity; while the Tatar could have had no knowledge of the very existence of the satellite if he had not seen it. Mr. Carter maintained that the habit of seeing as much as possible, of earnest visual attention to the details of the environments, would certainly have the effect of increasing the activity of the visual function, and also in all probability of promoting the growth of finer fibers in the retina, by the aid of which smaller images could be appreciated. He gave reasons for believing that the vision of town-bred children is less acute than that of the country-bred; the former seeing chiefly large objects, such as houses and omnibuses, under large visual angles; the latter habitually attending to smaller or more distant objects, and using the eyes under smaller visual angles. The general moral of the discourse was that all school teachers should be instructed to test the vision of new pupils, and to record the facts in a register, at the same time calling the attention of parents to cases of manifest defect, and thus enabling them to obtain timely advice, or to regulate the course of education with reference to the special requirements of each child. It was further suggested that vision should be trained in schools by the use of difficult test-objects set at proper distances; it being only work upon near objects that is ever injurious to the eyes, while work upon distant objects must always be of the kind by which the faculty exercised is likely also to be improved. It was maintained that sight might even be permitted to take its place among the physical qualities that are made the bases of competitions, and that prizes might be awarded for excellence. It seems certain that there are positions in life in which the power to see acutely might be quite as valuable as, or even more valuable than, the power to run swiftly; and there seems no valid reason why the recognition which is daily given to the latter should not be extended also to the former."

Growth of Man.—"Under the title of 'Das Wachstum des Menschen,' Franz Daffnfr has just published in Leipsic," says the *Revue Scientifique*, "an interesting anthropological study—a brochure of 129 pages in which he studies the physical development of man from the earliest stages of life up to the decrepitude of old age, passing all the intermediate periods in review. It is thus a study of the development of the individual in his average and common traits. The facts enumerated by M. Daffnfr consist chiefly of statistics—weight, length, and measurements of divers kinds. The author mentions a number of considerations on the predetermination of sex, and he adopts the hypothesis according to which the sex of the child is that of the most vigorous parent; the young mother of seventeen to nineteen years has chiefly boys; from twenty to twenty-one she has daughters; and as her strength lessens she gives birth to sons again. The argument seems to us to have little force, like all those that rest solely on statistics, for it is well known that we can twist these to mean just about whatever we want. Speaking ot the period of transition from girlhood to womanhood, Daffnfr argues forcibly against the use of the corset. He brings up measurement after measurement in the course of the book—weight, the length of the new-born child, loss of weight, increase in the course of growth, weight of the brain and other organs, the ratios of these weights, the dimensions of all the parts, both external and internal—such are the subjects treated of by the author, and the question in general is presented with a multitude of details and in a very interesting way."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

DISEASE FROM BEANS.

THE latest article of diet to have its character impeached is the common bean, which Pythagoras so warmly recommended, and which is said to be the favorite food of some communities in our republic. Dr. Cipriani has just published on the subject a book which, notwithstanding his Italian name, is written in German, and of which an analysis is given in *La Nature* (Paris, February 26). His work, we are told, is the result of no slight study and observation, and is therefore entitled to respectful attention. He accuses the bean, which has long been thought so harmless and nourishing, of causing a malady by no means infrequent to which he gives the name of fabismus. According to him, it is not the beans themselves which are poisonous, but microbes which exist in the interior of the bean. In that case we have to deal with an infectious disease.

Fabismus can be contracted in two ways: through the respiratory apparatus and through the digestive apparatus. In the first case the malady appears on inhaling the emanations from bean flowers. In the other cases it is produced by swallowing the beans themselves. The emanations from the flowers received in passing a bean-field are not always poisonous, that depending upon the season and the condition of the persons who inhale them.

Fabismus appears especially when one has eaten raw beans; but even dried and cooked beans may bring on the malady. If some of the beans which have made a person ill are given to a guinea-pig, the animal also becomes ill. Of course, if the cooked beans have been exposed to a heat sufficient to kill the microbes, the danger is eliminated.

Feeble persons—the neurasthenic—especially nervous women, are more disposed than others to be poisoned by bean flowers. Most of all does the poison influence those who have disordered stomachs. A first attack predisposes to a second one.

The progress of the malady is rapid. In the case of respiratory fabismus it culminates at the end of from two to five hours in a violent chill, followed by a fever, a little headache, insomnia, and prostration. In some cases the fever is so high that the patient is obliged to go to bed. Finally—but happily very rarely—the fever brings on a comatose state, which, in twenty-four hours, ends in death. In ordinary cases, the fever disappears at the end of five days, after abundant sweats.

In digestive fabismus, the progress of th malady is the same, with this difference, that the first chill is accompanied by vomiting and violent pain in the stomach. Th persons attacked often turn intensely yellow. As in the preceding case, the illness may end in death, but that is the exception. In general, the symptoms disappear one after the other in about four days. In both cases the spleen is enlarged and the sick people are very anemic.

Remedies are prescribed by Dr. Cipriani for this bean disease. His remedies are calomel, antipyrin, and especially chinosol.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

The Stone Age in the Nineteenth Century.—We are apt to think of "the Stone Age" as necessarily prehistoric, but the term relates to a stage of human development, not to a chronological epoch, and the stage lingers yet in out-of-the-way

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places, as we are reminded by Dr. Ehrenreich in *Globus*. Dr. D. G. Brinton, abstracting this article in *Science*, says:

"In a few remote corners of the earth there are yet tribes in the full Stone Age, living under the conditions of early neolithic man in Europe. Von den Steinen found such at the headwaters of the Xingu; the Jesuits not long ago discovered such in the interior of Alaska; and a report has lately been published by the La Plata Museum of the Guayaquis, who dwell in Paraguay, near the head waters of the River Acaray, and who are alleged to be true Stone-Age people. They are not over 500 or 600 in all, and are a timid, harmless set, shunning the whites from whom they have never received anything but brutal treatment. Their arms are the bow, the lance, and the stone tomahawk. They wear tall caps of tapir skin and adorn their necks with strings of bones and teeth. They are somewhat undersized, prognathic, and brachycephalic. Strange to say, their language was not studied, the small vocabulary given, which is Guarani, being probably a blunder. Dr. Ehrenreich inclines to believe them allied to the Botocudos."

NEW LIGHT ON THE RAINBOW.

THE first step of science in explaining natural phenomena is to make apparent confusion yield to a simple law. But the simplicity is generally no more real than the chaos was, for little by little modifications and perturbations are discovered, until the real explanation is complex enough to bewilder the ordinary inquirer. This complexity, however, is apt to be reserved for the study of the advanced investigator; for the layman the planets still revolve in perfect ellipses, the earth is a sphere, and the rainbow is a true solar spectrum. Astronomers know, however, that the planets move in very complex curves that are ellipses only when not regarded too closely; the earth is a sphere only by courtesy; and the rainbow is anything but a simple band of "rainbow" colors. The composition and arrangement of its hues depend, among other things, on the size of the rain- or mist-drops that form it. A French investigator has recently gone a little deeper into the matter than any of his predecessors, and his conclusions are summarized in a note in the *Revue Scientifique*, which we translate below:

"Descartes's theory of the rainbow, which is still given in treatises on optics, can not be admitted, even after a superficial examination. Every observer who gives a little attention to the matter will see, under ordinary circumstances, on the interior edge of the rainbow certain colors that do not correspond to the series of colors of the spectrum demanded by Descartes's theory. These additional colors, formed especially in the red and green, remind one of the colors of Newton's rings at some distance from the center and seem to have a similar origin.

"In a note on 'the intensity of light in the vicinity of a caustic curve' Airy has laid the foundation of an adequate theory of the rainbow, which has since been gradually developed. With a patience worthy of the highest praise, M. Pernier has calculated the tint and the angular deviation of the colors of the rainbow for different sizes of rain-drops, and has made experiments to verify his deductions.

"A beam of solar light, after reflection and refraction in a spherical rain-drop, does not emerge as a parallel beam nor as a group of parallel beams of different colors, but as a series of caustics of a somewhat complicated nature, in which the divergence of the colors and consequently their clearness, their separation, and their coincidence depends on the ratio of the radius of the drop to the wave-length of the light. The influence of the size is very great with small drops—that is, those of 0.1 millimeter [0.0004 inch] radius.

"The size of the drops of rain is supposed to vary from 0.1 millimeter [0.004 inch] to 2.6 millimeters [0.1 inch]; but the large drops in tropical rains reach, it appears, 3.4 millimeters in diameter. These diameters may be determined by collecting and weighing a definite number of drops, or by means of the more difficult method of diffraction. The tables prepared by M. Pernier are for drops of twelve different sizes, between 0.005 and 1 millimeter radius; to determine the corresponding colors, M. Pernier chose 8 of the 22 color equations of Maxwell. The first series of his tables gives, for a determinate source of light, the series of colors, their composition, in terms of red, green, and violet, their relative intensity, and their position in the color-triangle of each shade for different deviations between 42° 20′ and 36°.

"With drops of 1 millimeter, M. Pernier observes the red, the yellow-orange, the green, the violet, the bluish second violet, and then 24 secondary colors, formed principally of rose-violet, green, and blue; after the twelfth violet comes a white band and then a reversed series of colors. Drops of half a millimeter give 11 bows with 40 shades.

"M. Pernier has also studied the pale bows that are formed around the moon or the sun in time of fog. The general conclusions are as follows:

"The larger the drops of rain are, the more secondary bows there are. A principal bow of intense rose color and bluish-green indicates drops whose diameters vary 1 to 2 millimeters; intense red always corresponds to very large drops. Secondary green and violet bows [the blue is masked by contrast] without yellow, immediately contiguous to the principal bow, correspond to drops of 0.5 millimeter, while five or more secondary bows, without white and without a break in continuity, indicate drops of 0.1 millimeter. A bow partly of white is produced by drops of 0.06 millimeter, and still smaller drops give a white bow with yellow-orange and blue edges."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Oil as Locomotive Fuel.—We recently quoted an expert opinion that was very adverse to the employment of petroleum as fuel in locomotives. That all are not of this mind is shown by the conclusions of A. Morton Bell, who writes on the subject in *Cassier's Magazine* (March). At the close of his article he tells us that "as regards the economy of the oil fuel, it has been ascertained by careful trials of all the fuels that at the present prices of the district the use of the 'blue' oil and gas oil is cheaper than coke." The use of oil is rapidly increasing, and recent improvements in the method of burning it have "removed the greatest objection that could be raised against liquid fuel, viz., the necessary alteration for the conversion of an ordinary coal-burning furnace to an oil-fired one. The advantages of oil fuel on a locomotive soon become apparent to those accustomed to the footplate, for no matter how long the run—and in these days the tendency is to make long runs without stopping—there is a fire which, if properly adjusted, is always clean, always bright, always at its best; and after careful observation during a long experience of railway engines in various countries of the world the writer ventures to say that there are no locomotives operated more easily by the men than those which are fired with oil fuel."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

WHILE fully recognizing the merits of Dr. Lion's incubators, recently described in these columns, as a means of preserving the lives of feeble infants, *The Lancet*, London, passes severe strictures on the custom now prevalent in London of making a commercial speculation of incubators, and says, in reference to their exhibition at Barnum and Bailey's show: "What connection is there between the serious matter of saving human life, and the bearded woman, the dog-faced man, the elephants, the performing horses and pigs, and the clowns and acrobats that constitute the chief attraction to Olympia?"

THE following method of turning ordinary photographic blue prints to a rich brown is given by *Anthony's Bulletin*, New York. "A piece of caustic soda about the size of a bean is dissolved in five ounces of water and the blue print immersed in it, on which it will take on an orange-yellow color. When the blue has entirely left the print it should be washed thoroughly and immersed in a bath composed of eight ounces of water in which has been dissolved a heaping teaspoonful of tannic acid. The prints in this bath will assume a brown color that may be carried to almost any tone, after which they must again be thoroughly washed and allowed to dry."

PNEUMONIA, according to an article by Dr. J. W. Moore in *The British Medical Journal*, January 15, is what he calls a "multiple," or "mixed" infection, that is, it is not caused by a single germ, but by any one of several, or by more than one of these at once. Dr. Thompson, of Bellevue Hospital, claims that the onset now is just as sudden as it ever was, yet the date of the crisis has come to be so indefinite and suspicious that the visitation of the severe epidemic of influenza of 1890-91 may have given rise to this mixed infection. Dr. Moore asserts that we are already acquainted with pneumonia caused by several varieties of bacillus, and that it is not improbable that there are many other species which can set up the disease. He adduces evidence to prove that the organisms of erysipelas, influenza, Eberth bacillus, anthrax, etc., may all give rise to a specific pneumonia.

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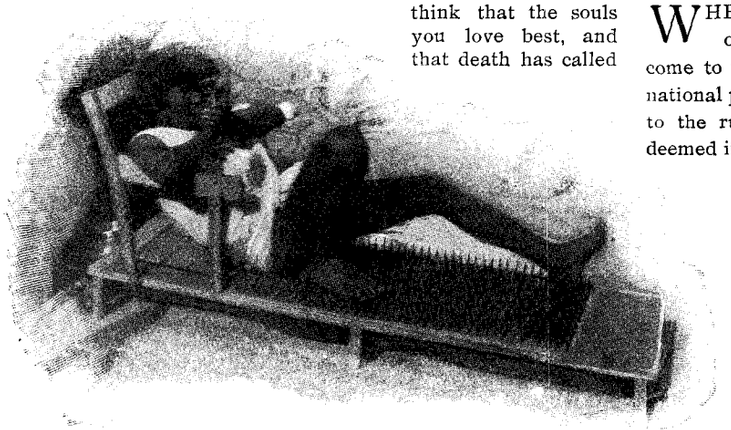
THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE HINDU'S DREAD OF EXISTENCE.

THE holiest place in all Bombay, says Lucy E. Guinness, is the "tank." It is to the natives a sanctuary, and around it little temples rise, to it pilgrims go, near it numbers of fakirs sit, covered with filth and ashes, in the hot sun. Miss Guinness, who is editor of a London paper, *Regions Beyond*, writes in *The Missionary Review* (New York, April), and after a brief description of the appearance of these fakirs, 'looking almost more like beasts than men," she indulges in the following reflections awakened by the scene:

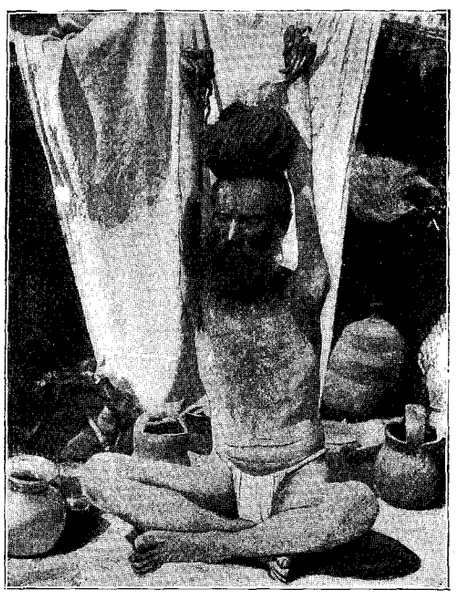
"What must be the character of the faith whose ideal is before us? We stand bewildered in the sunshine, trying to realize that it is not a dream –that to these men, our brothers, this filth, this degradation, this naked idleness, is the embodiment of sanctity—and our hearts go out to India, the first example of whose greatest faith meets us in such a form. This is Hinduism, hoary Hinduism, three thousand years old, and ruling to-day more than two hundred million men and women. The spectacle before us is the outcome of her teachings. This is the highest life one can lead. To their minds existence is an evil; emancipation from it in this life, and in countless future lives, is the one hope. Detach yourself from earth, go without clothes; have no home, no friends, no people; do no work; take no interest in anything at all; enjoy nothing, feel nothing, hope for nothing. Detach yourself—to do this, suffer pain, sleep on spikes, starve yourself, or eat carrion and nameless abominations; hold your arms up till they wither and the nails grow through the hand; do anything and everything to get rid of your supreme curse—conscious existence. . . . . .

"This nightmare dread of existence is the natural outcome of the transmigration theory—that saddest and most hopeless of all human explanations of life. Think for one moment of what it would mean to you to believe that every living thing on the face of the earth was the body of some soul—birds, beasts, insects, reptiles, men—all alike soul-houses; and that human souls were ceaselessly shifting through countless lives, and must forever shift among these, according to their merits or demerits? Transmigration we call it, and dismiss the idea with a word. But to *believe* that idea, to think that the souls you love best, and that death has called



A HINDOO DEVOTEE—LYING ON A BED OF SPIKES.

away, are pent up in some body—a jackal's, a cow's, a serpent's, perhaps—and will be bound there, feeling, suffering, enjoying if they can, until death smites them once again, and once again they change their house and pass into some other form, as coolies, kings, or what not—to believe that idea, what must it mean? Think of the burden of it, the endless, restless, weary round, from which is no escape; the grip of fate that holds you and drives you on and on; the inexorable sentence, from which is no appeal, consigning you to groveling reptile life or loathsome being. You may be born to-morrow a leper, an idiot, a murderer, anything—*Karma*, your fate determines what shall be, and your fate depends entirely on your merits. There is no pity anywhere, there is no forgiveness. Trouble comes to you to-day? Ah, you earned it yesterday, back in your last body. Then you sinned, now you are punished. This theory apparently explains everything so satisfactorily—all the crookedness and in-



A HOLY MAN OF INDIA.

equalities of life, all the strange chance of destiny. But it is so hard, so hopeless. Eighty-six million times you will be born and reborn, to suffer, live, and die.

"What more natural than to wish to shorten the period? Become a devotee, perhaps even a fakir. By so doing you detach yourself. You gradually escape reincarnation. You stand a faint and far-off chance of sooner finding rest—the oblivion of Nirvana—'not to be.'"

PROPER ATTITUDE OF THE PULPIT ON THE QUESTION OF PEACE OR WAR.

WHETHER the pulpit should take any part in the discussion of political issues is one of the questions that always come to the fore in times of any considerable excitement over national policies. The present excitement furnishes no exception to the rule. Bishop Paret (Prot. Episc.), of Maryland, has deemed it advisable to send out to the clergymen of his diocese the following letter of instructions:

"God having brought us to times of uncertainty, trouble, and danger, he calls our nation and its authorities to use all possible patience and wisdom. And as helping to that, I expect that you keep your sermons free from all questions of war or of national politics, and from unnecessary professions of patriotism. True patriotism does not need to be boastful. Important as these things are, they have no place in the pulpit. Our Savior and His Apostles first are our best models for preaching the Gospel. There were questions of deepest national importance then pressing upon the minds of the people, but they did not make them themes for preaching. They had something still higher to speak of—the spiritual truths of the Gospel, and its great moral principles and duties. These prevailing would bring peace and truth as their results. As citizens you may and must take interest in national affairs; but keep Spain and points of national policy out of your sermons. Ask God's blessing on those who now have the great responsibility. Use at every morning and evening prayer the appointed prayer 'For the President and for all others in authority,' and at every litany service and at all other services the prayer for Congress."

The Outlook (undenom.) reprints the bishop's letter, makes a

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fling or two at the denomination he represents, and then takes issue with the position assumed by him, as follows:

"If the bishop means, as he apparently does, that the question of peace or war is not to be discussed in the American pulpit, we wonder what questions he would think appropriate for the pulpit to discuss. The action of this nation can not be determined by President or Congress; in the last analysis it must be determined by the people. And the questions before them are profoundly religious ones: Does this nation owe any duty to the people of Cuba? Ought we to sit silently and see the terrible tragedy go on, with its starvation of non-combatants as a military policy? Ought we to interfere? If so, in what spirit? For humanity? Or for national aggrandizement and addition to national territory? If these are not moral and religious questions, will Bishop Paret tell us what questions are moral and religious? If on these questions the people can not look to the pulpit for guidance, to whom shall they look? Christ did not preach on national themes because the people to whom he preached were a subject people, unable by any act of theirs to affect the nation's policy. But the Old-Testament prophets, who spoke to a free people in a time when public opinion did have influence in determining the policy of the nation, preached habitually upon questions of national policy. We recommend all preachers who are inclined to act on the methods and in accordance with the counsels of the Bishop of Maryland, to study those Old-Testament prophets."

LIFE IN OTHER WORLDS, AND ITS BEARING ON CHRISTIANITY.

DURING the last twenty or thirty years, observes M. de Kirwan, a French scientific man of note, certain persons have endeavored to transform the graceful, poetic, and in itself perfectly inoffensive hypothesis of the habitation of the stars by living beings into an engine of war against spiritual and Christian doctrines. A sort of pantheistic and materialist system founded on an evolution without limits is set up as a substitute for Christianity on the strength of these supposed habitable worlds. A great point has been made of the pettiness of the earth in comparison with other stars, and of the smallness of the human stature. It has been declared to be inadmissible that a universe so infinitely vast should have been made for a little creature like man, and that consequently all that religion and spiritual philosophy affirm about the destinies of man and the part he plays in nature is but a legend which is vanishing in the bright light of science.

M. de Kirwan in *Cosmos* (Paris, February) maintains that nothing which science has yet discovered affords the slightest warrant for these attacks on the Christian religion. He begins by claiming that there is as yet nothing to show that organized life—so far as we have any conception of life—exists on any of the bodies composing our solar system. It certainly can not exist in the sun, a globe of incandescent gases of a temperature in which no possible combination of elements could give birth to and support any organism whatever. Venus, by reason of the great inclination of its axis to its orbit, has summers of intolerable heat succeeded with abrupt transition by winters of excessive cold, at intervals of about fifty-six days each. These violent and frequent changes of temperature must result in storms to which the fiercest cyclones known on the earth would be child's play. In such an abode, how can you conceive of the existence and development of life? The condition of Mercury is still worse. It presents constantly the same face to the sun. One of its hemispheres is constantly calcined by the solar furnace, while in the other hemisphere there is always night and winter. Under such circumstances is life possible?

Mars has an atmosphere, clouds, and seas. It does not, however, receive quite half the light and heat which the sun imparts to the earth, and each season in Mars being double what it is with us, it must have a long continuation of terrible cold. The red color of Mars seems to come from the nature of its soil in which predominates protoxid of iron. If this soil were covered by vegetation the protoxid would be deuteroxid, which is black. Without vegetation it is impossible to have inhabitants.

As to Jupiter, it is agreed that it is still in a liquid or at least pasty state. As to Saturn it is yet a gassy mass, and Uranus and Neptune are nebulous masses, without speaking of their very small participation in the light and heat of the sun.

The most convincing proof of the weakness of the attack on Christianity, M. de Kirwan finds in the latest scientific view of the moon. This view appears in the *Annuaire du Bureau des Longitudes* for 1898, founded on the recent progress that photography has permitted us to make in the examination of the lunar surface:

"The numerous photographs of the moon, obtained principally at the Lick Observatory in California, with some at Paris, will soon give us an atlas of this star, more minute perhaps and more complete in certain respects than even the atlas of the terrestrial globe. We have acquired about the moon as a whole and about the details of its surface much more profound knowledge than has been possible heretofore. Especially do the photographs offer the very great advantage of showing in a very marked manner the difference of tint between neighboring regions, a matter of high interest for the study of the physical state of the moon, and particularly for the existence or non-existence of air and water at its surface.

"The observation of the orographic relief of the moon, made singularly precise and assured by the photographic representation, proves decisively that there is no valley caused by erosion, and that therefore water has never intervened to bring about this relief. There is nowhere the slightest trace of ice, even at the poles, which, by reason of the obliquity of the solar rays, very little heat reaches. The writers for the *Annuaire*—thoroughly equipped for the science of which they treat—conclude that it is impossible to imagine an environment more unfavorable for life than the lunar surface. They add that, as organized forms, even the most rudimentary, are lacking on the earth at great altitudes, it is impossible to conceive of any organized forms which could adapt themselves to the moon in its present condition. Yet these writers go farther and declare that the present condition of the moon proves that the conditions of humidity and temperature demanded for the development of terrestrial organisms have never existed on the moon.

"To pretend that life is susceptible of adaptation to all imaginable environments is an assertion not only gratuitous but contradicted by facts. The limits of temperature between which life, so far as we know anything about it, can exist are quite narrow. Above 100° C. [212° Fahrenheit], no infusoria, no microbe, no bacteria can exist, and it is not necessary to descend much below zero to kill germs of every sort."

M. de Kirwan dwells specially on the latest views that science has formed in regard to the moon, because he thinks the case of that heavenly body proves it a gratuitous supposition to believe that the organization and manifestation of life are the principal end of the general creation. That the moon was not created for the purpose of organizing and maintaining life seems, so far as our knowledge extends at present, entirely clear. Without doubt the earth was created for man. Its place in the sidereal universe was determined in view of man's existence, and in such a manner that he can utilize for his profit, at least in a certain measure, the other creations which are beyond his reach.

That the stars which are improperly called fixed and which, like our sun, are incandescent masses raised to an extreme temperature, can be the seat of organic life, so far as we know anything about that life, no one is rash enough to affirm. Yet may not these stars have planets gravitating about them? Some of them may. That there are beyond the limits of human observation other earths inhabited by living beings, even by intelligent beings, it is not unreasonable to suppose. Yet, after all, it is but a supposition. It is a matter about which we *know* absolutely nothing whatever. The not improbable supposition leaves a

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wide field for the use of the imagination. To pretend, however, to find in the supposed existence of these sidereal humanities arguments against Christianity is absurd.

As to the smallness of the earth in comparison with the other heavenly bodies, and the littleness of human stature, M. de Kirwan considers that such considerations amount to nothing. Is the value of beings in proportion to their mass? If that were so, an elephant or a whale would be of much more value than a Socrates, a Virgil, or a Pascal. Of what consequence is the stature of the human being, if he is able to become acquainted with, more or less, to weigh, and number all those immensities which come under his observation. The greatness of man is not in the dimensions of his body, but in the divine torch of reason which enlightens him and aids him in discovering and determining the most secret and most complicated laws of nature and to carry on his investigations in the most distant regions of space.

If there be in other worlds combinations of body and soul, of organism and mind, like or analogous to the human combination which peoples the terrestrial globe, how is the value of the latter attenuated or diminished by such a fact? And if the Creator has deigned to manifest Himself specially to the beings of this earth, how is the destiny of the beings in other worlds injured thereby? —*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE GOSPEL FOR THE RICH.

IT is the view of Rev. Amory H. Bradford, D.D., that we are in grave danger of neglecting the religious needs of the wealthy classes in the community in our zeal to spread "the light of the Gospel" among the poor and lowly. He speaks of that class of persons in American society who go under the title of the "Four Hundred," and says that they are more difficult to reach and more inaccessible to religious influences of any kind than any other class. As a class, it is said, they are not only self-satisfied, but they are self-conceited, and resent interference, even tho it be only in the way of personal interest. They have an air of superiority which is appalling to the average person, especially if his social position is somewhat lower. They look down from an exalted eminence on all who are really earnest. They despise enthusiasm, especially if it has a moral quality. Moreover, they are largely immoral, and immorality always more or less isolates. This class is composed of the rich, the selfish, the self-satisfied, the conceited—in short, of those who are more or less arrogant and altogether pagan.

After speaking of other difficulties in the way of reaching these people, Dr. Bradford makes some suggestions as to methods for overcoming these obstacles. He says (*North and West*, Minneapolis):

"This work can often be done by laymen better than ministers. At a banquet of the Bar Association of Boston not long ago the presiding officer indulged in some cheap flings at the doctrine of Providence. He was followed by a judge of the State of Massachusetts, who spoke in the same strain. He in turn was followed by one of the most distinguished justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, who very quietly, very modestly, but very firmly, confessed his faith in the constant and beneficent Providence of God. Said my informant: 'The audience was hushed in an instant; and you could have heard a pin drop.' The silence was the involuntary but none the less genuine tribute of the common human heart to the vitality of that truth. If such men would always show their colors in public gatherings and at banquets, they would influence many whose ears are closed against the professionalism of the pulpit. Such witness-bearing is never entirely without a good effect.

"One other way of reaching this class is by parlor and club conferences. The late Prof. Henry Drummond did some of his most efficient work in the parlors and clubs of London, and Mrs. Ballington Booth has had great success in the same kind of service. Many will accept invitations to such conferences who would never darken the doors of a church. But it must be allowed that these are chiefly women, and of a class predisposed toward religion. One other consideration is worthy of mention. These men are still men; they have hours of dissatisfaction; their souls are hungry, however much their bodies may be pampered; and above all other things, they appreciate and value reality—perhaps because their own lives are so artificial. Those who can get near to them should deal faithfully with them, and not shrink because they are reserved; and then in love, but with perfect distinctness and bravery, without any softening of unpalatable truths, the essential message of Christianity should be presented. Genuineness and reality always make themselves felt. The pastor who never flinches from his duty because of any favoritism, who speaks out as Mr. Beecher sometimes preached in Plymouth church, as Canon Farrar used to preach in Westminster Abbey, will be reported, and the most hardened in the community will learn that a real man—a man with a message—a prophet of God who can be neither bought nor bluffed, is near at hand, and in many ways they will find out what his message is. The churches are not the only places where the heedless are reached with the Gospel. If there is one prophet like Nathan in a city, all the guilty Davids will soon know what he is saying, even if they never hear his voice.

"'The neglected rich' can not be reached by more machinery; 'revivals' and 'special services' are useless. Mr. Moody, in his great campaign in England and Scotland, touched only the outer edge of the highest and lowest classes. If impressed at all, it will probably be in the one of two ways—either by their friends who are Christians, or by the influence, direct or indirect, of a real spiritual prophet who is not afraid to tell them that they are sinners, to denounce their miserable vices, and who, in a reasonable and manly fashion, presents the Gospel not as means of escape in some far-off future, but as the only way in which any can complete their manhood and be made fit to live here and now. More than this must be left to time and the Spirit of God."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

MISS WILLARD requested Miss Gordon to bear to Lady Henry Somerset a picture, Hoffman's "Christ," but to have engraved on it first this: "Only the Golden Rule of Christ can bring the golden age of man."

The Japan Mail, in an editorial on Shintoism and shrines, gives the number of the latter at 193,476, with 14,766 priests, or one to every thirteen shrines. The priests of higher rank are paid $25 to $75 a month, and have besides a part of the income of the shrines.

ACCORDING to a newspaper paragraph, Rev. W. H. Morrison, of Manchester, N. H., has voluntarily relinquished $500 of his $2,000 annual salary because of the cut of 20 per cent. in the wages paid at the mills and the consequent hard times in the parish and the town.

A CURIOUS spectacle is to be witnessed on Sundays in the pretty little church of Hampden—always associated with the memory of John Hampden. For there are to be seen a peer of the realm, his wife, and the stone-breaker to the parish council, all assisting in divine worship. The Earl of Buckingham reads the lessons, the countess plays the organ, while the stone-breaker plays the useful part of verger.

The Michigan Christian Advocate says: "Of 1,955 Baptist ministers in Great Britain and Ireland, 1,556 are reported to be total abstainers. Out of 2,847 Congregational ministers in England and Wales, 2,364 abstain from strong drink. In some of the Methodist bodies the percentage of total abstainers is still larger. Out of 17,468 ministers in the M. E. Church how many are total abstainers? We think about 17,468."

DR. KENNEDY MOORE, who was prominent in last year's attack on Dr. John Watson (Ian Maclaren), has notified the Presbytery of South London that he will move at its next meeting to transmit to the Synod, which meets at Liverpool on April 25, an overture complaining of the heresy in Dr. Watson's work, "The Mind of the Master," and praying the Synod to take steps to vindicate the honor and faith of the church.

THERE is a movement to organize a guild of Catholic authors and writers of the United States. It is to be a national affair and number among its members some distinguished writers. Archbishop Corrigan approves of it. Its aim will be to place within the reach of young writers the experience of older and successful authors, and chiefly to promote the more thorough cultivation of the Catholic spirit in every department of letters.

PRESIDENT RAYMOND of Wesleyan University is averse to the idea that a short cut to the Christian ministry is well, either for the denomination or the individual. He also holds that the church must get a larger view of the significance of the Gospel than it has had in the past. "We have looked at it," he says, "too much from the standpoint of sin and salvation. There is a body of relationships between men which are apart from those."

THE estate of Phillips Brooks, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of Massachusetts, has been closed up by the filing of the executor's account in the Suffolk probate court. It was appraised at $45,856. Among his bequests which have been satisfied are those of $2,000 to Trinity Church, Boston, toward the completion of the font; his books, valued at $4,000, to the rector's library of the church, and $1,000 to the Boston Home of Incurables.

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

THE TROUBLE BETWEEN CHILE AND ARGENTINA.

ACCORDING to latest advices the Chilian Government has declared itself unable to comply with the request of Spain to sell the battle-ship *O'Higgins*, and the Argentine Republic, which is certainly inclined to sympathize with us, will not part with the *25 de Mayo* for our benefit. These two countries are themselves on the eve of war. Argentina, which is much larger, much richer and more populous than Chile, has allowed her newspapers to excite the people to such an extent that they are eager to try conclusions with Chile. The immediate cause of this dangerous state of affairs is sketched by the *Lei*, Santiago de Chile, to the following effect:

An Argentine, Dr. Moreno, recently published a book in which he asserted that the districts in the Andes at present in dispute between the two countries belong undoubtedly to Argentina, and that Chile has no right to demand even the frontier which Argentina is inclined to grant—the *divortium aquarum*. This same Dr. Moreno was appointed one of the boundary commissioners, and the Chilians protested against the appointment of one so strongly prejudiced. To Chile, with her narrow and limited territory, easily overrun by an enemy unless she has a natural, easily defended boundary, the matter is one of life and death. Argentina, on the other hand, being in possession of the rich plains of the East, does not need the bleak mountain region in dispute, and would use it merely to establish garrisons there. Chile, who wants peace in order to develop her not over-rich resources, has already made important concessions by assenting to the *divortium aquarum*, as is shown by Dr. Hans Steffens in a recent treatise, in which he points out that Chile has given up a large part of Patagonia to which she had undoubted rights.

However, the Argentine "yellow journals" are little inclined to listen to argument. The *Prensa*, Buenos Ayres, says:

"It is impossible to allow the Chilians to oppose us in this matter. We have had enough of Chilian arrogance. The dignity of our glorious country demands that we should uphold our national honor at all cost. The Argentine Republic is the paramount power upon this continent, from a military point of view, its people are the most martial, and the reputation of its soldiers for prowess is distinguished above that of its neighbors."

The Chilians, who have done a good deal of fighting during the past twenty years, are very cool. *The Chilian Times*, Valparaiso, commends them for their dignified attitude, and says:

"Have the writers for this section of the Argentine press, we wonder, ever seriously considered what would be the consequences of a war between the two republics?. . . For a nation to consider its own soldiers the best in the world is simply one phase of patriotism. Even the Chinese do so, but that did not prevent their valiant battalions from stampeding the other day before a handful of 'foreign devils.' . . . Foreigners residing in Buenos Ayres and other parts of the Argentine Republic, who visit Chile at this season of the year, are, however, much struck with the difference in the peoples living on this and on the other side of the Andes. They find the Chilians a more virile race than the Argentines, and it is a common remark of the visitors that if Argentines generally could see Chile as she is, with their own eyes, war talk would no longer be indulged in on the other side of the Andes. . . . No people in the world acquire the art of soldiering more readily than the Chilians, and there are probably no people who have a greater contempt for death."

The *Vorwärts*, Buenos Ayres, hopes that the two governments will be able to arrange the matter amicably, and declares that the Argentine Republic is being rushed into a war by a lot of irresponsible jingoes. What makes the matter more difficult for Chile, however, is the attitude of Peru. The Peruvian papers express a most intense hatred for the warrior race from the western slope of the Andes, and assure Argentina that she has the full support of Peru. The *Tiempo*, Lima, says:

"Chile committed a crime when she despoiled us, and, having devastated our territory, kept us in the most humiliating subjection. But turn about is fair play, and our time has come. Chile fears that she will be reduced to an insignificant spot on the map, and tho she still has confidence in her brutal strength, she seeks to propitiate us. Let her humble herself before us as she has humbled us, that is the only way to escape the catastrophe."

The Lima *Nacional* assures Argentina that, beyond all question, Peru will be her ally; but it is generally supposed that Chile would win even against these odds. Her navy is in first-class condition, and very popular with the people. In Argentina the navy is rather under a cloud. *The South American Journal*, London, makes the following suggestions, referring to the hunt for ships at present indulged in by the United States and Spain:

"It appears to us that it would be a good opportunity for both the Argentine and Chilian governments to sell some of their warships, and that they could possibly be secured, if the Government purchasing them would at the same time guarantee to both countries to settle their boundary dispute by experts, in accordance with the existing treaties, which would be, we believe, a very simple matter, since it has been agreed that the boundary between the two countries shall be the Cordilleras, and it only requires the good offices of an independent party to determine, at such points where doubts have arisen, which should be the correct boundary."
—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE SPANISH PRESS ON THE ATTITUDE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE Spanish press now accuse the United States of utter wantonness in her desire to end the Cuban rebellion by active intervention. They summarize reports of supposed corruption, injustice, lynchings, massacres, poverty, and crime as represented in our own and foreign papers, and ask upon what we base our assumption of superiority. They are, however, chiefly incensed with our intention to intervene at this date, and allege that the great majority of Cubans are well satisfied with autonomy. The rebellion, they assert, is almost stamped out, business is reviving in Havana, and if America would leave Cuba to settle her own affairs, the island would soon recover. The Cuban Radical and Liberal papers, which before the introduction of autonomy were friendly to the United States, now also denounce us.

The *Union Constitutionnel*, Havana, points out that the committee which at present is busy succoring the concentrados does not work very smoothly, and that the work undertaken is more likely to benefit beggars and increase vagrancy than to help the deserving. The paper asserts that the Americans, furious with the success which autonomy has achieved among the people, seek to keep the insurrection alive by promises of intervention. The *Lucha* says:

"We can not understand the sudden fury of the United States, now that everything is beginning to settle down. We can not but attribute it to the influence of certain rings interested in keeping the insurrection alive. Spain certainly has done nothing to cause this new outbreak of hatred. But Spain need not fear the war; it will be seen at its end who is the greatest loser."

The *País* asks if the Americans do not know that the authorities in Cuba are themselves engaged in assisting the concentrados. The *Diario del Ejercito* thinks there are "none so blind as those who will not see," and points to the 80,000 Cuban volunteers enrolled on the side of Spain, who do not want intervention, will not tolerate the rule of the rebel *cabecillos*, and certainly do not want annexation. The *Diario de la Marina* says Spain's patience is at an end, and quotes from the *Correo*, Mexico, in which Telesforo Garcia expresses himself to the following effect:

The conduct of the United States in the Cuban question is most hypocritical; the behavior of the yellow journals and jingo repre-

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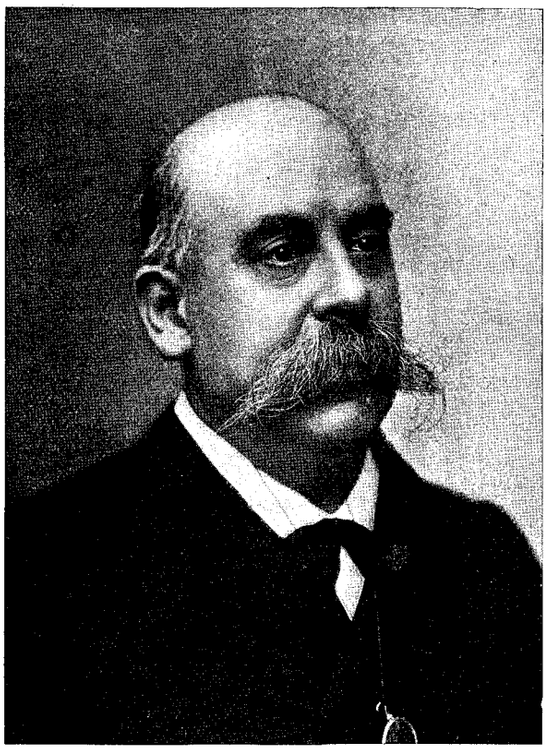
sentatives is nothing less than criminal. But it is very likely that they will receive a very severe lesson. Their idea that Spain can be beaten with scarcely any effort will certainly prove to be erroneous. With a view to the good-will of the powers of Europe Spain has acted with prudence and self-command; but this must not be regarded as weakness. At any rate, the Americans should remember that nearly every Spaniard is a soldier.

The *Epoca*, Madrid, still hopes that "McKinley and Sagasta may yet be able to hold their own against the 'yellow' American and 'red' Spanish press and the jingoes of both nations." The *Heraldo* is less optimistic, and says:

"The United States is for all the world like an upstart who thinks he can do what he pleases because he has a few dollars, and fancies all the women are after him. We believe the Americans really think the world admires their conduct. But the Europe-



EMILIO CASTELAR.

pean press on the whole admire the conduct of Spain. We, at least, need not brag of our prowess. Spain's reputation is established."

Widely quoted and commented upon in Spain is an article in the *España Moderna* by Emilio Castelar. This venerable Spanish Republican, who has time and again expressed his admiration for the United States, and has only made his peace with the monarchy because, under its constitutional form, it differs little from a republic, expresses himself to the following effect:

Affairs in Cuba assume daily a more satisfactory aspect. Differences in the new government have easily been settled, if they ever existed. The rebels are surrendering in large numbers, those which still oppose us are held in check by the recent decided successes of the troops. Many who sympathized with the rebels are perfectly satisfied with the new government, desertions from the ranks of the insurgents are frequent, and the barbarous means adopted by the rebel chiefs to prevent desertion show how desperate is their condition.

Castelar then criticizes the attitude of the United States as follows:

"Whenever the insurgent forces decline the Americans strengthen them; when the surrender of the rebels is near, the Americans retard it by their boasts; whenever we are on the point of crushing the rebellion in the dry season, the Americans fan the flickering flame; and when, as a consequence, there are still some insurgents in the rainy season, they protest against the continuance of the struggle and talk fantastically of an impossible intervention. A 'friendly visit' by a war-ship means that the two governments are on good terms, and strengthens amicable relations; but not when it is preceded by such conduct as that of the jingoes in the American Congress, and such scandalous messages as that delivered by McKinley. Repression of the conduct of the jugglers in New York would do much more to win our gratitude than all the 'friendly visits' in the world."

Still more vigorous is Castelar in an interview which appears in the Paris *Annales Politiques et Littéraires:*

"The Cuban insurrection was inaugurated at a very inopportune time. We had abolished slavery, and the enfranchised who had remained under a mild control had obtained the right of manumission. First in Porto Rico and subsequently in Cuba serfdom had been abolished, and in the negroes fundamental rights and social liberties had been recognized such as the black race had not enjoyed even partially anywhere else. Deputies had been admitted to represent Cuba in the Cortes; liberty of conscience had been decreed for Cuba, as well as liberty of the press, education, and assembly, to the same extent as prevailed in Spain. There had been presented in the Cortes a scheme of self-government for the island, a grand measure for which everybody voted from extreme Republicans to the most uncompromising Carlists. In fine, with regard to Cuba we had placed ourselves unreservedly in the line of progressive evolution.

"Now when a people is thus started upon a progressive career, has it the right to revolt! No, a thousand times no! Spain does not demand military service of the Cubans; she exacts from them the smallest possible contribution toward national expenditures. The Cubans had the same rights as the other subjects of the monarchy, and they were on the point of obtaining a yet grander participation in their own local government; in spite of all this they rebel! Such an insurrection amounts to suicide!

"It is futile to speak to Spain about anything else than war! We shall fight, and fight to the last drop of our blood and the last coin in our possession. Nothing can turn us from this path, nothing can prevent us from reestablishing by force of arms the sovereignty assaulted by force of arms. With any other people the Cubans would forfeit by revolution most of what they had gained by a wise evolution; but the Spaniards are determined to be as liberal and humane after victory as implacable in war.

"I am told we can not avoid a collision with the United States. But in that case it will mean on their part an aggression against us as criminal as was the invasion of Napoleon in 1808. We have done nothing to provoke the United States. Their threats we have treated with the scorn of a tranquil conscience. We shall do our utmost to avoid war, without humiliating ourselves before power or staining our history by the least indignity. But if the United States declare war against us, we shall assert our rights against everybody."

The *Imparcial* also says that, altho the insurrection has lost much strength in spite of the conduct of the Americans, it is extremely difficult to stamp out the rebellion altogether as long as its chiefs are enabled to surround themselves with a few followers, thanks to the liberality of their American supporters.— *Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Direct Cable Communication with Germany.— The German Secretary of Postal Affairs announces that Germany will shortly begin the laying of a separate cable to the United States, and that this will lead to a comparatively quick extension of a separate German cable net over the world. The *Neuesten Nachrichten*, Munich, says under this heading:

"The beginning has already been made by the laying of the cable from Borkum to Vigo, a distance of some 1,200 miles. The next extension will be to the Azores. The cable to the United States is especially necessary, for the trade relations with that country become more important every year. Our postal service with the United States is already ahead of all others, no other country being able to furnish a line of fast steamers for the delivery of mails such as we have it. But with regard to the cables

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we are still dependent upon the British companies. France, tired of the tutelage exercised of late by the British, has at last laid down her own wire, and Spain, too, is about to form a cable connection of her own with the New World. We can not, of course, lay down a net as extensive as that which Great Britain has created within the last fifty years; but we can after some delay furnish connections which will benefit not only our own trade, but that of the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and Russia as well."

The *Kreuz Zeitung*, Berlin, thinks the laying of separate cables would not be necessary if the English were less jealous. But they "doctor" every scrap of news sent between the Continent and America to suit their own purposes, and it is now certain that they would tie up the lines altogether if it benefited them.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

EUROPE ON THE APPROACHING WAR.

THAT war between this country and Spain can hardly be averted has been plain to European observers for some time. England is coming out more and more boldly with expressions of sympathy for us. France continues to show her sympathy with Spain. Germany, Austria, Italy, Russia, and the smaller countries are rather indifferent, altho the general idea seems to be that Spain is forced into the struggle much against her will and without just provocation. The chances are thought to be somewhat in our favor, tho the tenacity of Spain is taken into consideration, and here and there doubts are expressed that we shall retain our enthusiasm if we experience serious reverses.

The Spectator, London, says:

"The Spanish Government know that if they lost Cuba except as the direct result of war waged with a stronger power the present monarchy would cease to exist. It is thus not merely the Ministry of the day, but the whole constitutional fabric in Spain, which is at stake. The dread of complications at home makes it absolutely impossible for the Spanish Government to give up Cuba—which is the logical outcome of America's demands. . . . The Americans expected Spain to say: 'We can not fight both the United States and our own rebels, and therefore we will yield.' The Spaniards have said nothing of the kind, but instead have determined that they would fight not only the Union but the whole world rather than yield. This has gradually brought the American people—we mean by 'the American people' not merely the jingoes and the cranks but the mass of quieter citizens—to see that diplomacy can do nothing, and that they must take one of two courses. Either they must allow Spain to go on in Cuba in the future as she has gone on in the past, or else they must intervene by means of war. There is no third course possible. . . . In our belief, America will not allow Cuban anarchy to continue, and in spite of the very grave reasons which exist for non-intervention, she will before long take naval and military action."

Many English papers nevertheless wonder whether Uncle Sam will know what to do with Cuba when he gets it. That is the attitude of *The Speaker*, which says:

"In the face of a possible deficit, of a banking crisis, and of a suspension of the revival of industry in the United States, that nation has deliberately shown the world that she will not be trifled with. The Spanish patriots will do well to heed her warning.

"We trust they will do so for the sake of the United States as well as of their own country. Before the War of Secession, Cuba, occupied by American slaveholders, would not have been by any means so inconvenient a possession as to-day. The slaveholders would practically have controlled the state and manipulated the Creole vote. Cuba would merely have been a larger Louisiana. But Cuba to-day would be far more embarrassing as a State of the Union than New Mexico, which has been qualified for admission as a State for many years past, but remains a territory because of the large element of Mexican Roman Catholics in its population. What would the 'A.P.A.,' founded to keep native Americans free from the control of a foreign and priest-ridden electorate, say to a measure which would put two Spanish Roman Catholics into the Senate? . . . As a republic under the United States protectorate, the island would be less dangerous, but the United States could hardly be responsible for preserving it from the fate of other Spanish-American republics."

Similar views are expressed by *The Scotsman*, Edinburgh, which says:

"The people of the United States, if they drove the Spaniards out of Cuba to-morrow, would be at their wits' end to know what to do with the island. If they propose merely to restore order, they are undertaking an experiment for which the Constitution has made no provision, and it is very doubtful if the Cuban insurgents would be a whit more readily amenable to American rule than they are to Spanish. The attitude of the average American toward 'colored' people precludes the idea of Cuba being incorporated as a new State in the Union. The only interest which the United States has in the island is a trading interest. Sensible Americans know that Cuban independence would mean a continuation of Cuban anarchy. The people are not fit for self-government. The question of what is to be done with the island when the Spaniards are driven out is the question Mr. McKinley has to face; and the closer it is looked at the more difficult appears its solution. There is also the knowledge that Spain will not quit without fighting; and her fighting power as compared with that of the States is not insignificant."

Here and there the possibility of an Anglo-American alliance is mentioned, and *The St. James's Gazette* promises us the support of Great Britain against Spain in return for our assistance against Russia, Germany, and France in China. The paper nevertheless acknowledges that it is for us to make the bargain. *The Daily Chronicle* doubts that we are ready to enter into it, and says:

"America does not need more help from us now than at any other time. She is superabundantly capable of meeting any situation that may arise. She will have our friendly sympathy and neutrality in the Cuban question, and at this moment it is difficult for us to offer more. It is quite certain that England would never allow the United States to be crushed by a combination of European powers."

Many of our Canadian contemporaries, too, have begun to express their approval of a war against Spain in the most unmistakable manner. Thus *The Globe*, Toronto, says:

"There has never been the least attempt at disguising the strong sympathy felt in all parts of the United States with the Cubans in their struggle for liberty. With this feeling thousands of Canadians are in absolute accord, and when the methods by which Spain was endeavoring to reduce the Cubans to subjection transpired indignation became the uppermost sentiment in the public mind. . . . If Spain recognizes the inevitable and as gracefully as possible accedes to it, there may be no war, but in any event Cuban independence is a foregone conclusion. It should be said for the executive and the people of the United States that they have shown their best side, the real greatness and calmness of a democracy when put on trial. The nation has nothing to gain, nothing to look for, in a war except the satisfaction of defeating oppression and giving a neighboring people the same measure of freedom that its own people enjoy. In such an enterprise Canadians will not withhold their wishes for the immediate and triumphant success of the arm that sets the bondman free."

On the continent of Europe there are people ill-natured enough to say that British sympathies have become much stronger since the fifty-million-dollar bill was voted, of which she hopes to get a goodly share. The *Weser Zeitung*, Bremen, thinks a war with Spain need not close American ports entirely, and much business would be done via Canada. The *Vossische Zeitung*, Berlin, says it was to be expected that England, who always wants other people to fight, should be pleased with the prospect of a possible setback to American competition. The paper nevertheless thinks there is still a chance for peace. It says:

"The United States is preparing for war with feverish haste, but there is still the possibility that the [Cuban] rebellion will

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speedily collapse. The dissension among the rebels themselves will do much to bring this about. That they are fighting each other is a good sign. If the rebels submit, the United States has no longer the shadow of an excuse for its enmity against Spain."

The German Emperor is generally supposed to sympathize with Spain, but there is no possibility of verifying the statement of the New York *World* that the Emperor emphasized his sympathies by banging the table. The *Hamburger Nachrichten*, which voices German conservative opinion, says:

"However bad Spanish administration in Cuba may be—and we would be the last to defend it—Spain can not allow another state to prescribe to her how her colonies should be ruled, nor within what time an insurrection should be crushed. That Cuba geographically belongs to the American continent is no reason for interference. Such intervention must hurt the pride of the Spaniard all the more as Spain sees in the United States an upstart who has injured her a great deal already. Moreover, the United States offends all Europe. It is the first time that a transoceanic power thus boldly arises against a member of the European society of states. And to think that this power is the United States, which owes to Europe its very existence and its civilization."

However, there is as yet no talk of interference between ourselves and Spain. The *Nieuws van den Dag*, Amsterdam, expresses itself to the following effect:

It is generally believed that the European powers have consented to remain neutral in case of war between the United States and Spain. The powers have declared this in answer to a question from the United States. A similar course was pursued by the American Government in 1875, when a conflict with Spain seemed imminent. Then, however, the answers were less favorable, and no war was begun. It is worth while to mention here the opinion of the Pope. Asked whether he would offer his services as arbiter, His Holiness is reported to have said: "That is impossible! Spain is so clearly in the right, and she has made so many sacrifices, that no terms can be suggested to her. It would be unjust to demand further concessions from her!"

That we can whip Spain in short order is rather doubted. Our best chances, according to foreign opinion, lie in putting the war off for a while. Brousart v. Schellendorf, Prussian ex-Minister of War, is reported to have expressed himself to the following effect:

In German army circles the fighting ability of the United States army is not valued very highly. Moreover, it can not be brought into play until the Spanish fleet has been totally destroyed. The American is hardly powerful enough to do that. The faulty organization of the American army does not permit a speedy landing in Cuba and a successful campaign there. The Americans must try to gain time to organize an efficient force. That can not be done in a hurry. Spain must try to prevent it, but she can only do so by declaring war. But Spain does not want war. Every delay is to the advantage of the Americans, yet it will be a long while ere they have an efficient attacking force. That is the fate of all militia organizations.

The *Tageblatt*, Berlin, says:

"The end of such a war can not be doubtful if the American navy does its duty. . . . Spain can have some success only if she takes advantage of the unreadiness of the United States. The Americans know this, and will try to gain time. The period of preparation is always dangerous for a state with militia organizations and enlisted crews. If America can get the necessary time, she need not fear the result of a war despite her militia."

A correspondent of *The Westminster Gazette*, London, thinks the insurgents will have to accept autonomy unless the war comes. Spain is thought to be willing to grant almost complete independence, but will not withdraw her flag. There are now 100,000 Spanish soldiers on the island, and 50,000 volunteers. The latter drill once a month. The correspondent concludes as follows:

"It has been frequently suggested that the campaign here on the part of the Spaniards is carried on in a very lukewarm manner. Certainly this is borne out by what one sees in the city of Havana. The soldiers do not look in fighting trim, and the officers drink, breakfast, dine in the hotels and cafés in a way that to the casual observer suggests that nothing is farther from their thoughts than actual warfare. I am told, however, that should a war with the States ensue this will be quite changed—that the old Spanish blood is rising to boiling-point owing to what is considered to be the arrogance of the Yankees."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SOME FACTS REGARDING MARINE ARTILLERY.

PECULIAR ideas are at times entertained with regard to the strength of battle-ships, the power of explosives, and the ease with which a ship may be sunk. We take the following on the subject of modern war-ships and their fighting capacity from an article by v. Kirchmayr in the Austrian *Mittheilungen aus dem Gebiete des Seewesens:*

The power of modern guns of heavy caliber is such that every projectile which does not hit a thickly armored part, or strike at a very acute angle, must cause frightful destruction in the interior of a vessel. But as the heavy armor covers hardly more than a third of all parts visible above the water-line, it is more likely that an unarmored part is hit than that armor will be struck. One lucky shot can disable a ship, a few lucky shots may decide a battle. It is this consideration which causes the Germans to be so specially careful in the training of their marine artillery. But it is not very likely that the percentage of hits will increase in future. The increased speed of the vessels prevents that. Ships armed with the heaviest ordnance can begin to fire at a distance of 6,000 to 7,000 meters [3½ to 4½ miles]; with guns of a somewhat lighter caliber, at 5,000 to 6,000 meters. The heavy guns, indeed, carry much farther; but it would be useless waste of ammunition to fire at a ship more than three or four miles away, and a modern ship can not afford to waste its ammunition any more than its coal. With modern facilities for loading, a battleship could fire away its entire stock of ammunition in less than an hour, and who can say that it will be quickly replenished?

The following will show that, to-day as ever, "many a ball will pass by many a man," and that the number of possible hits is much less than is generally supposed. The statistics are taken from the British Admiralty reports:

Only two of the 101 ships that are considered in the report still carry muzzle-loaders. Of these the *Inflexible* fired eight times with its enormous sixteen-inch caliber guns. The *Dreadnought* fired sixteen times with its fifteen-inch guns. No hit was recorded. The same was the case with thirteen shots fired by the *Benbow* and *Sanspareil* (sister ships of the unfortunate *Victoria*) out of their sixteen-inch breech-loading guns. The *Colossus* made but one hit with seventeen shots out of its breech-loaders of slightly ancient pattern. The *Camperdown*, which has more modern ordnance, recorded six hits in fifteen shots. The average of this increases as the caliber decreases. The armored cruiser *Imperieuse* made twenty-two hits with twenty-nine shots out of its eight-inch breech-loaders, which, however, was rather a phenomenal result. On the other hand, some of the smaller guns produced less satisfactory records. The cruiser *Sybille* did not hit anything with thirteen shots, and the *Lambrian*, *Intrepid*, and *Astrea* made only one hit with eleven, twelve, and fourteen shots respectively.

In the rest of his article the writer defends his impression that the comparatively small but heavily armored ships of the German navy, armed almost exclusively with quick-firing guns from ten-inch caliber down, must be reckoned with in marine warfare as possessing very high fighting value.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

PICTURESQUE BURMA—THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE.

IN the recent literature of France, it is notable that the two works of most signal interest, inasmuch as they are descriptive of the two Oriental lands and peoples that stand for all that is most significant and fascinating in the passing transformations of the Orient, are by women—Mrs. Bishop's "Korea and Her Neighbors" (see LITERARY DIGEST, March 26), and Mrs. Ernest Hart's "Picturesque Burma."

Sangermano wrote, a hundred years ago, "there is not, in the whole world, a monarch so despotic as the Burmese emperor." History affords no record of a despotism more absolute. The king was lord, not of the soil only, but of the lives, the persons, the property of his subjects. A nobleman of the highest rank could be instantly executed at the whim of his royal master. In Crawford's time, a distinguished minister of state was condemned to be "spread-eagled in the sun," bound fast on his back, in the public way, with a heavy weight on his chest; and King Hpagyi-doa beheaded the royal architect of his new palace at Ava because the golden *htee* on the spire was struck by lightning! Even the British-Indian Government, in its earliest relations with the court of Burma, stooped and groveled to address the king in terms of most fulsome adulation:

"Placing above our heads the golden majesty of the mighty lord, the possessor of mines of rubies, amber, gold, silver, and all kinds of metals; of the lord under whose command are innumerable soldiers, generals, and captains; of the lord who is king of many countries and provinces, and emperor over many rulers and princes, who wait round the throne with the badges of his authority; of the lord who is adorned with the greatest power, wisdom, knowledge, prudence, foresight, etc.; of the lord who is rich in the possession of elephants and horses, and in particular is the lord of many white elephants; of the lord who is the greatest of kings, the most just and the most religious. The master of life and death—we, his slaves, the governor of Bengal, the officers and administrators of the company, bowing and lowering our heads unto the sole of the golden foot, do present to him, with the greatest veneration, this our humble petition."

And this was the same governor and company that afterward pounded his stockades about his ears, annexed his great provinces one by one, and yanked the "golden foot" off his throne, shipping him to abject captivity in Madras!

Alompra, the founder of the dynasty, was a man of obscure birth, undaunted courage, unbounded self-assertion, with great ability and force of character. He conquered Pegu, achieved the independence of Burma, and elevated himself to the supreme power; but the kings of his line were homicidal maniacs. It is an almost tedious story of fanaticism, drunkenness, debauchery, incest, insane ferocities, and ingenious cruelties. Mindohn Min was the one pious and illustrious exception in the house of Alompra. He is described as beautifully mild and reasonable; when any member of his council or court annoyed him, he did not rudely impale or burn the objectionable personage; he simply remarked, "I do not wish to see that person any more," and he never did! Even as late as 1858, human victims were buried alive, according to the royal custom, under the walls of Mandalay: "Three under each of the twelve gates of the city; one under each of the four corners of the wall; one under each of the palace gates; one at each corner of the timber stockade of the palace; and four under the throne of the king. The victims were persons of representative rank, and the boys and girls selected were so young that their legs were not tatooed nor their ears bored."

But in November, 1885, the scene was shifted. General Prendergast led his troops, unopposed, into the palace stockade, and presented—booted and spurred, without making obeisance—the fated ultimatum to the king, requiring Theebaw to surrender his crown and his kingdom within twenty-four hours:

"In the night that followed, Mandalay was given up to terror and lawlessness; soldiers looted, dacoits marauded, prisoners escaped. In the gilded palace, the Queen hastily gathered her jewels together and prepared for flight; but General Prendergast was awakened by the Tyndah, and warned that his royal prisoners would escape in the confusion. . . . The next morning early, King Theebaw was hurried without ceremony into a bullock gharry, and Queen Supayah Lat into another; and thus they were conveyed, through a great crowd of their subjects, awe-stricken and weeping, to one of the steamers of the Irrawaddi Flotilla Company. Here a guard of soldiers was drawn up, and when the royal prisoners came aboard, they drew their swords, and presented arms. As the naked sabers flashed in the sunlight, the craven king fell on his knees and cried in terror, 'They will kill me. Save my life!' But Queen Supayah Lat strode on erect, with her little child clinging to her dress—dauntless and fierce to the last."

It is a relief to turn from the hideous spectacle of a besotted and insane despotism to the later picture that Mrs. Hart throws upon her canvas. The array of a ruthless bloodguiltiness—the heathen in his madness—has been confronted by a corporal's guard of American missionaries, armed with Bibles, and supported by a formidable host of British missionaries, armed with bayonets. Burma, if not evangelized, is at least reformed. One Sunday evening, Mrs. Hart, roaming through the palaces of Mandalay—so lately the scenes of barbaric magnificence and massacre—was startled by the sound of an English hymn, sung in King Theebaw's audience hall. A British chaplain, with a British regiment for a congregation, was holding the evening service. In the heart of the Burmese Empire the conquering race had set up its altar to God, and the despot who styled himself "King of kings" was supplanted by Jehovah.

And now the curious globe-trotter, in pursuit of the picturesque, makes pleasing excursions up and down the Irrawaddi in the steamers of the Flotilla Company, preferring the cargo-boats for the amusement they afford. Such a boat is a traveling bazaar, and carries peripatetic shops to the dwellers on the banks. The races are various that one finds among the passengers: Kachins, with brown, good-humored faces, small eyes, flat noses, huge turbans; Shan merchants, soiled and unsavory, in great flapping sun-hats; prosperous pig-tailed Chinamen, "childlike and bland," counting their gains; Buddhist priests, patient and contemplative, telling their beads. In every village is a monastery, and pagodas crown the hills; contented family groups squat in the open cottages, where the wood-fire dances in the middle of the floor. "There is no grinding poverty in Burma; a bounteous soil, a hot sun, a religion with an excellent moral code, and the absence of intemperance have combined to make a happy race."

There are no disabling restrictions of caste, the women are free, the children are fondled, marriage is respected. "The gay manners, the amiable temperament of the Burmans, are remarked by all travelers." A Burman's house is of one story: no man's or woman's feet must stand above his head. It is a sensible house, simple and commodious, built of the light bamboo, and raised on posts seven or eight feet from the ground, with an eye to river floods and possible earthquakes. It is thatched with the leaves of the toddy-palm, soaked in salt-water to render them insect-proof. But these roofs are inflammable; therefore chatties of water are kept always on the thatch, and, leaning against the wall, there is always a long, hooked bamboo pole and a wooden flapper, the pole to tear off a blazing thatch, and the flapper to beat out the flying fragments.

Within, there are few belongings. A rush mat laid on the floor and protected by mosquito-nets hung from the roof, a joint of bamboo for a pillow, and a few rags when the nights are chilly—these make a good bed for a wise man; and he will be content

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with a great circular dish and a few platters and lacquer bowls for his table "service." The Burman at play is seen at his best in the boat-races, in displays of fireworks, in games of football, in the boxing or wrestling matches, in cock-fighting, and even in his picturesque chess, with its king, and general, its war-chariots, and its elephants, its horsemen, and its footmen. The Burman at work is a husbandman in the paddy-fields, or a bell-founder, or a wood-carver, or an artist in lacquer, even a clerk,—tho in this latter capacity he may be reckoned among the "kittle cattle" that are hard to drive, for he will stand no browbeating; not that he will offer armed resistance, but that he will inevitably discharge himself, without warning, without even remonstrance, for he has tasted the rapture of the boat-race, and he knows what it is to dance in the bazar for the pure joy of the sunshine and the flowers.

The "advanced" American woman will hardly be prepared to believe that women in Burma "are probably freer and happier than they are anywhere else in the world." While her neighbors on the one side, the women of China, are held in contempt, and those on the other, the women of India, are confined in strict seclusion, the Burmese woman has achieved for herself a freedom of will and action that has no parallel among Oriental peoples; because she is energetic and industrious, while her brothers are indolent and often recluse. She is the money-getter, the buyer and seller, and the financier of the household. She is a born trader and it is she, rather than her husband, who drives the bargain with the English buyer for the paddy harvest. The business of the Burmese woman is to be pretty, good, amiable, and gay—and to "hold up the market" when she is making a contract with a British trader for timber or forage.

There is no need in Burma for a married woman's property act, for all property belonging to the bride before her marriage remains to her absolutely. All profits arising after marriage from the employment or investment of the separate property of either husband or wife, and all property acquired by their mutual skill and industry, are held as "joint" property. The husband can not sell or alienate it without her consent; even if she is not engaged in business, it is acknowledged that she fulfils her part of the contract by bearing children and faithfully discharging her household duties, and she still retains her control over the "joint" possessions.

In the intervals of business she rocks the cradle and cuddles that blessed baby. Here is one of her cradle-songs, "done into English" by her countryman, Shway Yoe:

"My prince, my sweet gold blood, my son,
Ordained a regal race to run,
Listen to your mother's coaxing,
Listen to the song good folks sing:
When little boys
Make such a noise,
Comes the Brownie
On wings downie;
Comes the wood-sprite
In the dark night,
Witch and warlock,
Mere and tor folk,
Kelpie, nikker,
Quick and quicker,
Gobble all bad babies up!"

Now, Burmese orchestras are learning to play "God Save the Queen," "Auld Lang Syne," and "The Girl I Left Behind Me." But still the people are not wholly happy. They remember regretfully the gilded palaces, the gorgeous ceremonials, the reckless squandering of their kings. It is hard for them to become accustomed to the stupidly useful ways of the British policeman; in King Theebaw's time the dacoit was not useful, but neither was he stupid; and everybody knows that he was twice as lively. And to the pious Burman, schooled in a monastery, it is surely a sore offense to behold cantonment widows and dress-parade damsels junketing among gods and nats on the sacred terraces of Shway Dagohn—the golden and glorious pagoda.

A Curious Alaskan Lake.—The rich placers of the Klondike are not the only curiosities of the country through which the Yukon runs, according to the *Revue Française de l'Etranger* (Paris), which tells us:

"There is in Alaska, nor far from Dawson City, a truly extraordinary lake, to which has been given the name of Salawik by its discoverer, Father Tosti, a missionary to the Indians of Alaska. This lake, which is sixty miles broad, is perhaps the only one in the extreme North which does not freeze in winter. It is not known to have any communication with the sea, and yet when the tide rises on the shore of the Arctic Ocean, the water rises in the lake, and lowers as soon as the tide in the ocean falls.

This sympathy with the sea, however, does not go so far as to make the water of Lake Salawik salty; on the contrary, its water is excellent for drinking. Another astonishing peculiarity of the lake is that its temperature rises in winter and falls in summer. Thus when all the water-courses in its neighborhood are frozen solid, the water of the lake becomes so warm that it is really pleasant to bathe in it. On the contrary, in summer its water is so cold that it chills you.

"This peculiarity causes the lake to be in winter the Mecca of the tribe of fishes who travel thither from all the water-courses which empty into it. The number of fish is so great that you can catch them with your hands and kill a considerable quantity of them with a stick. Thus there is opened to miners a considerable supply of provisions, on which they had not counted, and which will diminish greatly, without doubt, the cost of living in winter in those inhospitable regions. In an hour, a man can supply himself with fish enough to last him a month, and fish of an excellent kind, too, as, for instance, salmon of the best quality. It will not be astonishing, says *L'Evenément*, of Quebec, if some fine day there is built, on the shores of Lake Salawik, one of those fashionable hotels which are the glory of American watering-places."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER.

The Communion-Cup Controversy—A Case in Point.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

Anent the discussion on individual communion-cups, which will not down and ought not to until the matter is settled in accordance with the principles of ordinary cleanliness, let me rise to remark that one observation of a fact such as those detailed by Dr. Sangree, in your issue of March 19, is worth more than a thousand failures to observe or recognize facts, as is the case of those who "do not find disease to result from contact with impure cups."

An incident which came under my personal observation not long ago should be of value to those who are striving to establish the proper relation between cleanliness and godliness.

At a recent communion-service, two or three seats in front of my family pew sat a young person whom I had been treating for specific ulcer of the lip. Physicians will know what I mean by "specific ulcer." Suffice it to say that it is the highly infectious, primary stage of one of the foulest, most dreaded diseases that affect the human organism. This person partook of the wine, and the same cup was passed to the occupants of my pew. Being, fortunately, in possession of the facts, I declined it and succeeded in getting another cup which, at least, had not so clear a record of filth and infection. But how about those in the rear of my pew? M. D.

DUBUQUE, IOWA, March 21.

Lincoln's Unspotted Manhood.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

You have, in the issue of March 12, given your readers some interesting items concerning Abraham Lincoln as a lawyer, and given Judge Bergen's and others' verdict "that the most pervading and dominant element of his character was his love of truth, not merely the moral avoidance of falsehood, but truth in its most comprehensive sense, correctness and accuracy in fact, in science, in law, in business, in personal intercourse, and in every field." After reading the above an incident occurred to my mind that may be of interest. I was seated one evening in a room with some twenty gentlemen who belonged to professional and business life. All had personally known Mr. Lincoln well, for he spent much time in the town (Peoria, Ill.), and his quaintness furnished them with many anecdotes. Some of the stories showed Mr. Lincoln's appreciation of jokes and readiness to perpetrate them. After the gentlemen present had concluded their narrations, I said: "You have all known Mr. Lincoln pretty well and said much to indicate his shrewdness as a lawyer. I would like to ask you individually, did any of you ever know Mr. Lincoln to be guilty of a mean act, one that you could say now and here that you would blush to repeat, anything that lowered his manhood or discounted his character?" I put the question to each man and the answer was, "No." I thought at the time it was a splendid testimony to the true nobility of the dead President, and might serve as a stimulus to others to strive and keep themselves "unspotted." B. B. USSHER.

DEDHAM, MASS.

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

Quieter and smaller distribution has been the feature of the week's trade. The quarter just closed, however, has been characterized, says *Bradstreet's*, by eminently satisfactory progress and "productive of an unprecedented business in many favored lines." Distribution at the East and South is reported slower, exports being somewhat checked by increased freight and insurance rates growing out of our unsettled foreign relations. The volume of iron and steel business continues heavy, naval and military armaments demanding large consignments. Heavy shipments of pig iron and steel rails are booked for Klondike and Honolulu. Boat-building is also active in the Pacific Northwest. The price situation shows little change, while failures are less. Stock speculation is active and nervous.

Cereals and Breadstuffs.—"The outgo of breadstuffs continues, Atlantic exports being 2,516,220 bushels, flour included, for the week, against 2,185,378 last year, and Pacific exports, 542,147 bushels, against 138,207 last year, and for the past five weeks from both coasts the exports have been 16,592,917 bushels, against 8,226,256 last year. Meanwhile, corn exports have been for the week 3,767,029 bushels, against 4,291,621 last year. All the speculative movements at the West have been less influential than this heavy and continued buying of grain, and Western receipts begin to fall off, as if supplies were no longer unlimited. Wheat has declined slightly, but corn has advanced one quarter cent for the week, and no one imagines that foreign troubles can check the outgo."—*Dun's Review, April 2.*

Stock Markets and Exchange.—"Speculation at New York has been active and excited, with wide fluctuations in prices. Marked recoveries have been scored on the reports indicating a diplomatic settlement of the Cuban question, shorts covering extensively and Europe appearing as a large purchaser. The market has, however, been erratic and subject to sharp variations, but at the end of the week displays sensibility to further unsettling reports, tho the floating supply of stocks is decidedly reduced. Bonds have been dull, but governments have had a sharp recovery and show firmness. Foreign exchange rallied to 4.84 for demand sterling, after a break to below 4.83½, on further liquidation of investment holdings of sterling. Large gold-importing arrangements aggregating $8,900,000 were announced this week."—*Bradstreet's, April 2.*

Iron and Steel.—"The iron and steel market shows no decrease, for with works fully employed and some additional works put into operation for government purposes, pig is not lower anywhere, and at Pittsburg a shade higher for Bessemer, because of agreement by valley producers, while without agreement of Mesaba mines the purchases of ore at Cleveland were over a million tons for the week. Billets are still scarce and sheet bars in demand, tho wire rods are lower, and wire nails are weaker, in spite of the imperfect combination of makers. Other prices for manufactured products are unchanged, altho rails are a shade stronger, with a Russian order pending for 35,000 tons to complete the Pacific Railway, and plates are in very heavy demand, 6,000 tons for cars and 4,000 tons for other use at Pittsburg, with 10,000 more originating at Chicago, and structural orders covering 4,200 tons for buildings at the East, with 1,000 more at Pittsburg and many at Chicago."—*Dun's Review, April 2.*

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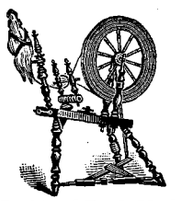

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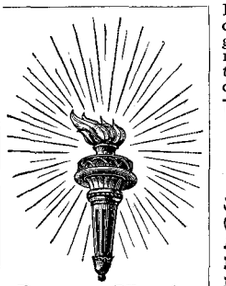

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Canadian Trade.—"While a rather smaller volume of business is reported doing at most Canadian cities, that already done has been so satisfactory as to allow of cheerful views as to the future. The opening of navigation, which occurs this week, has aided to an extent already, and will to a much greater degree in the future improve general demand and distribution. Toronto reports some travelers already starting out with fall samples. Hardware is in better movement than usual on good demand from the Northwest and the mining-camps. Wool is unsettled and lower prices are anticipated for the next Canadian clip, which promises to be fully an average, because of the lack of the American outlet possessed a year ago. Prices of most products are firm at Montreal, and the lowering of freight rates consequent on resumption of water transportation is expected to benefit trade at that city. A fair business is doing in the maritime provinces, where the weather is more favorable. Fish is firm, but there is practically nothing doing in lumber. Reports from the Newfoundland sailing fleet are on the whole favorable. Colder weather on the Northern passes has again stimulated outfitting trade at Vancouver and Victoria. Failures in the Dominion of Canada for the first quarter of 1898 number 516, with liabilities of $3,800,000, a decrease of 24 per cent. in number and of 20 per cent. in liabilities from one year ago. Bank clearings in the Dominion of Canada for the month of March aggregate $113,568,000, a gain of 50.6 per cent. over March a year ago, while for the three months the total bank clearings aggregate $339,829,000, a gain of 44.5 per cent. over a year ago."—*Bradstreet's, April 2.*

Current Events.

Monday, March 28.

The report of the *Maine* **Court of Inquiry** is **made public** with the testimony taken. . . . The Spanish Government announces that it will not object to the sending of **relief to the** Cuban **reconcentrados**. . . . Anton **Seidl**, the Wagnerian musical conductor, **dies** in this city. . . . Congress—President McKinley sends the **report of the** *Maine* **Court of Inquiry**, accompanied by a message to both houses; the documents are referred by the Senate to the foreign relations committee and by the House to the foreign affairs committee, without debate. . . . **Senator Money,** of Mississippi, delivers a speech **on the Cuban question,** deprecating further efforts to maintain peace.

Lieutenant Niblack has **purchased conditionally** for the United States **a protected cruiser building at Kiel** for a South American government. . . . Minister Woodford, at Madrid, communicates to the Spanish Government **an extract from the report of the American Board of Inquiry** into the *Maine* disaster. . . . The **navy bill is adopted** without division and amid cheers **by the** German **Reichstag**. . . . **Mr. Gladstone** has been informed that he has **no chance of recovery**. . . . The **Russian flag** is hoisted **at Port Arthur** and Talien-Wan.

Tuesday, March 29.

Negotiations between Washington and Madrid for **a settlement of the Cuban question** continue; members of the House of Representatives who favor radical and immediate action for **the independence of Cuba** hold a conference and draw up a program. . . . **Captain Sigsbee** is cordially **welcomed at Washington**. . . . At a powder-mill in Tennessee **three thousand kegs of powder explode,** seriously injuring several persons. . . . Congress—Senate: **Four Cuban resolutions** are introduced, one being a direct declaration of war against Spain and the others favoring independence and forcible intervention. House: **Three Cuban resolutions are introduced;** the day is spent in consideration of bills on the private calendar.

General Woodford, the United States Minister, holds **a conference** of an hour's duration **with Premier Sagasta** and several of his cabinet ministers. . . . The **Russian Government** has made known to all nations the Chinese concessions it has obtained, and says the port of **Talien-Wan** will be opened **to ships of all friendly nations**. . . . The Government of Prussia has been asked **to exclude all American apples** from that country.

Wednesday, March 30.

President McKinley's latest note to Spain demands **absolute independence of Cuba** of Spanish control. . . . The sailing of a **Spanish flying squadron** from Cartagena causes considerable concern to the Navy Department; measures have been taken to guard against a raid on the fleet at Key West. . . . **A cable** has been laid **between Key West and Dry Tortugas**. . . . It is announced that **S. R. Callaway,** president of the Lake Shore railroad, will succeed Chauncey M. Depew as **president of the New York Central** on April 20, when Mr. Depew will become chairman of the boards of directors of the Vanderbilt lines. . . . Secretary of the Interior Bliss has sent to Congress **a deficiency estimate** of $8,070,872 **for pensions** for the current fiscal year. . . . Congress—Senate: The Cuban question does not come up, tho great crowds are present, in expectation of an exciting debate; **the Alaska civil government bill** is passed. House: A resolution recognizing the **independence of Cuba,** offered **by Mr. Bailey,** the Democratic leader, is ruled out of order by Speaker Reed, whose decision was sustained by a vote of 180 to 139.

Two Spanish cruisers and **a torpedo gunboat** sail from Cartagena, it is presumed, for Cuba. . . . The **United States has bought** in Sicily the **steam yacht** *Aegusa* for $300,000. . . . A carrier-pigeon from the French line steamer *La Bretagne* announces that the steamer would be delayed by assisting **an English sailing-vessel in distress**. . . . Sir Charles Dilke in the House of Commons attacks Lord Salisbury for holding the **two offices of Premier and Foreign Secretary.**

Thursday, March 31.

A despatch from Minister Woodford, presumably giving **Spain's reply to President McKinley's demands,** is received at the White House, but the contents are not made known. . . . The Senate foreign relations committee favorably reports Mr. Lodge's bill for the **purchase of the Danish West Indies,** which are offered to this Government for $5,000,000. . . . **Captain Sigsbee gives his views** on the *Maine* disaster to the Senate foreign relations committee. . . . The New York legislature adjourns finally, after voting the governor **$1,000,000 as a war fund**. . . . Congress—Senate: A Cuban debate is started by Mr. Frye's request that the resolution calling on the President for **consular reports** to be sent back to the foreign relations committee. House: There is an **exciting discussion of the Cuban question,** in which Representatives Johnson, Grosvenor, and Bailey take the chief parts.

At the **conference of the Spanish ministers with General Woodford** in Madrid fresh proposals are submitted by the ministers and telegraphed to Washington. . . . General Blanco is-

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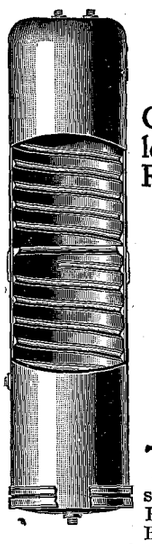

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sues a decree **abrogating the reconcentration edict** of General Weyler in the Cuban Provinces of Pinar del Rio, Havana, Matanzas, and Santa Clara. . . . Mr. Curzon announces in the House of Commons that Russia has promised that **Port Arthur and Talien-Wan,** if leased to Russia, will be **open to foreign trade** on the same basis as other Chinese ports. . . . **Germany demands satisfaction from Spain** for an act of insurgents in Cuba.

Friday, April 1.

The **Spanish Government's reply** to President McKinley's ultimatum is considered in Washington so **unsatisfactory** as to make war almost inevitable. . . . President McKinley receives **an appeal from the autonomist government** of Cuba not to intervene for the independence of the island. . . . The work of **stripping the United States war-ships** of their woodwork at Key West is continued. . . . **An earthquake** causes $250,000 worth of damages at Mare Island navy-yard, San Francisco. . . . Congress—Senate: Mr. Lodge withdraws his resolution providing for the **purchase of the Danish West Indies** in order to secure harmony, much opposition to the project being manifested. House: The **naval appropriation bill** is **passed,** with the number of torpedo-boats and torpedo-boat destroyers increased to twelve each and the provision for three battle-ships retained.

It is reported that the **Spanish torpedo flotilla** arrives **at Porto Rico;** the Spanish cruisers *Vizcaya* and *Oquendo* sail from Havana. . . . **General Woodford,** the United States Minister, is making preparations **to leave Madrid** in the event of a diplomatic rupture. . . . **Mrs. Delia T. S. Parnell** is **buried** beside her famous son Charles in Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin. . . . Arthur Orton, the **notorious Tichborne claimant, dies** in London. . . . The **Portuguese Government** has authorized the importation of sixty million kilogram of **foreign wheat.** . . . **Prince Bismarck** celebrates his **eighty-third birthday** at Friedrichsruh.

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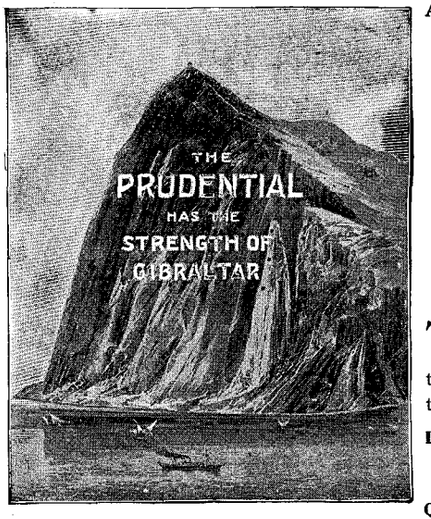

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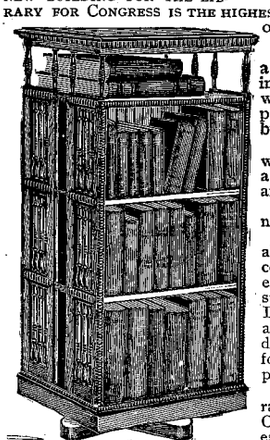

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Saturday, April 2.

The **New York** City **board of trade and transportation** unanimously approves the President's course in the Spanish crisis. . . . President McKinley begins the preparation of his **message to Congress.** . . . The Senate committee on foreign relations decides to report favorably **Mr. Foraker's resolution** recognizing the independence of Cuba and declaring for **armed intervention** if necessary, with an amendment fixing responsibility for the *Maine* disaster on Spain. . . . Secretary Gage and Chairman Dingley confer with the President in regard to **war-revenue measures.**

Pressure by the powers of Europe, it is said, is being brought to bear on the Queen Regent and the cabinet of Spain in the hope of **avertiug a war** with the United States. . . . Lieutenant-Commander Colwell purchases **for the United States an 1,800-ton cruiser** in England: a crew is obtained and the vessel will go to sea within three days. . . . A Peking despatch says that the British Minister there has demanded **for Great Britain important** compensatory **concessions from China** to maintain the balance of power in the East.

Sunday, April 3.

The prospect of an offer of **mediation by some European power** is discussed with great interest in Washington; **France** is regarded as the country most likely to make the first offer. . . . Work on the **old monitors** at the Philadelphia navy-yard *is being pushed as rapidly as possible.*

Four armored cruisers have been ordered **to join the Spanish torpedo flotilla,** which is not at Porto Rico but at Cape De Verde Islands. . . . A Madrid despatch says that information has been received there of **an alliance between Great Britain and the United States** for mutual action in the Far East. . . . China has agreed **to lease Wei-Hai-Wei to Great Britain,** to restore the balance of power in the Gulf of Pechili; Great Britain also demands the cession of the island of Chusan; **Li Hung Chang** and the Chinese Tsung-li-Yamen are **accused of being in the pay of Russia.**

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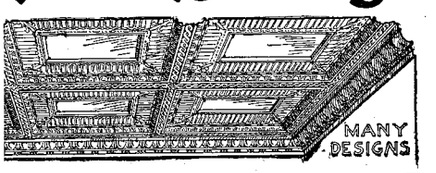

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CHESS.

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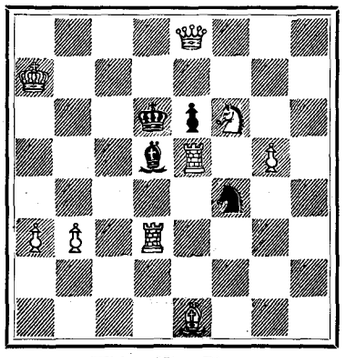
Problem 272.

BY A. ARNELL.

(A Prize-Winner.)

Black—Four Pieces.



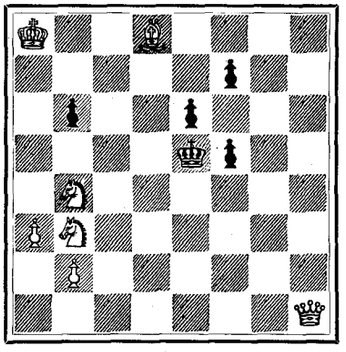
White—Nine Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

Problem 273.

BY G. HEATHCOTE.

Black—Five Pieces.



White—Seven Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 268.

Key-move R—R sq.

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; H. W. Barry, Boston; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; C. Q. De France, Lincoln, Neb.; George Patterson, Winnipeg, Man.; C. W. C., Pittsburg; C. F. Putney, Independence, Iowa; N. Crosskill, Wellesley Farms, Mass.; E. L. Antony, Cameron, Tex.; H. V. Fitch, Omaha; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; C. J. M. Grönlid, Elon, Iowa; Dr. G. A. Humpert, St. Louis; "Ramus," Carbondale, Ill.; J. C. Eppens, Canal Dover, Ohio; Dr. W. S. Frick, Philadelphia; Dr. T. M. Mueller, Jasper, Ind.; Dr. B. M. C., Elkhart Mines, Md.; F. B. Zay, Findlay, Ohio; J. Jewell, Columbus, Ind.; Mark Stivers, Bluefield, W. Va.; Dr. H. W. Fannin, Haskett, Ark.; A. R. Hann, Denton, Tex.; J. P. C., Chattanooga, Tenn.; C. Porter, Lamberton, Minn.; B. J. Williams, Shelby, Ohio; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; E. E. Whitford, Factoryville, Pa.; Gertrude L. Lank, Finleyville, Pa.; O. E. Latham, Kalamazoo, Mich.; Dr. R. J. Moore, Riverton, Ala.; Mrs. S. H. Wright, Tate, Ga.; F. L. Hitchcock, Scranton, Pa.; W. F. Baker, Tiffin, Ohio; The Rev. S. T. Thompson, Tarpon Springs, Fla.: T. C. Kierulff, San Francisco.

Comments: "Short, pretty, and easy"—M. W. H. "Shows skill in construction"—H. W. B. "A clever device"—I. W. B. "Good. I think I have seen something like this, some antique curiosity that gave Mr. Loyd his cue"—F. H. J. "Very beautiful in conception"—C. Q. De F. "A little beauty"—G. P. "Short and sharp"—C. F. P. "Clever"—N. C.

No. 269.

This problem, altho it was awarded first prize, has two solutions: Kt—B 6, the key-move of the author's solution, and Q—Q B 8.

Both solutions received from M. W. H. and Courtenay Lemon, New York City.

First solution received from H. W. Barry, C. Q. De France, George Patterson, C. F. Putney, Dr. Humpert, Dr. B. M. C.; Mark Stivers, T. H. Varner, Des Moines.

Comments: "I do not think I have ever seen a finer 3-mover but for the other solution"—M. W. H. "Variations exceedingly ingenious"—H. W. B. "An exceedingly hard problem"—C. Q. De F. "A fair, average 3-mover"—G. P: "One of the best you have published"—C. F. P. "Good"—Dr. H. "Quite intricate"—T. H. V.

Second solution received from the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Dr. Moore, Mrs. Wright, F. H. Johnston, C. W. C., E. L. Antony, C. R. Oldham, C. J. M. Grönlid, "Ramus," J. C. Eppens, Dr. Frick, Dr. Mueller, F. B. Zay, J. Jewell, C. Porter, F. S. Ferguson, D. W. Wilcox, New Orleans; C. J. Morrison, Chicago.

Comments: "Elusive and delusive as a fairy queen"—I. W. B. "I confess to disappointment in this 1st prize problem"—F. H. J. "Very confusing"—C. W. C. "Very good, but don't see why it should take first prize"—E. L. A. "Well conceived"—C. R. O. "The most complicated problem I have solved"—R. "A weak problem"—F. S. F.

R. J. Campbell, Danville, Va., and J. S. Smith, Linneus, Mo., were successful with 267.

The Rev. S. T. Thompson sends solution of 266.

The Problem Tournament.

Several problems have been received for the Tournament, but not enough to make it a success. You have until the 1st of May to study and plan, and we do hope that you will send us very many compositions. The four prize-problems will be published. We have not attempted anything in the Chess-Department of THE LITERARY DIGEST which has not proved successful. Whether or not the proposed Problem Tourney accomplishes the purpose for which it was started—to bring out the talent of our Chess friends—depends entirely upon you. Send in your problems, and send them as soon as possible.

The United States Championship Match.

Pillsbury won the twelfth game in the match with Showalter, on Friday, April 1, the victory giving him the match and the Championship, with the stakes of $2,000. The following is the summary:

Game.	*Date.*	*Opening.*	*Won by.*
1	Feb. 25	French Defense	Showalter
2	" 28	Ruy Lopez	Pillsbury
3	March 4	French Defense	Pillsbury
4	" 7	P—Q 4	Drawn
5	" 9	Q's Gamb. Declin'd	Pillsbury
6	" 14	P—Q 4	Drawn
7	" 16	French Defense	Pillsbury
8	" 21	Ruy Lopez	Showalter
9	" 23	Q's Gamb. Declin'd	Pillsbury
10	" 25	Ruy Lopez	Pillsbury
11	" 30	French Defense	Showalter
12	April 1	Ruy Lopez	Pillsbury

Total—Pillsbury, 7; Showalter, 3; drawn, 2.

The Cable Chess-Match.

That something must be done, and done effectually, to strengthen the American Team is admitted on all sides. We have just one more chance; if we lose in 1899 the Newnes Trophy goes to England, and the fact that England beat America three times out of four goes into Chess-history. The Brooklyn *Standard-Union* finds some consolation in calling attention to the relative strength of the players in the teams arranged "according to their known or computed strength." By this arrangement we find that the Americans were at the top by a score of 4 to 1, or 3 wins and 2 draws, the Englishmen not winning a game. Therefore, the match was lost by the tail-enders of the American Team. The problem is to select four players strong enough to hold up their end of the match. The general impression is that Pillsbury, Showalter, Barry, Hodges, Hymes, and Baird will be retained. To get the other four players *The Standard-Union* suggests a "preliminary tournament on a large scale, a public competition arranged by rounds, the team to be selected on the principle of the survival of the fittest." The "funny" man of *The Times*, Philadelphia, would reverse the order, the American tail-enders playing the British leaders; "then," he says, "while Blackburne is boring Young full of holes, Pillsy might get a game."

The Correspondence Tourney.

FIFTY-FIFTH GAME.

Queen's Pawn's Opening.

CAPT. O. J. BOND, Charleston. *White.*	DR. G. A. HUMPERT, St. Louis. *Black.*	CAPT. O. J. BOND. *White.*	DR. G. A. HUMPERT. *Black.*
1 P—Q 4	P—Q 4	36 P—B 4	R—Q B 6
2 P—K 3	P—Q B 4 (a)	37 R x P	K—B 2
3 P-Q B3(b)	P—K 3 (c)	38 R—Q B 6	R x P
4 B—Q 3	B—Q 3	39 K—R 3	P—Kt 3 (m)
5 P—K B 4	Kt—K R 3	40 P—Kt 4	R—B 8
6 Kt—B 3	Kt—Q 2	41 K—Kt 2	P—B 5
7 B-Kt 5 (d)	Castles	42 K—B 2	P—B 6
8 Kt—Kt 5	P—K 4	43 K—K 2	P—B 7
9 B x Kt (e)	B x B	44 K—Q 2	R—Q 8 ch
10 QPxKP(f)	B x P	45 K x P	R—Q 4
11 Q x P	B x B P (g)	46 R—B 7 ch	K—K 3
12 P x B	R—K sq ch	47 R x P	R x P
13 K—B 2	R-K 7 ch (h)	48 R—R 4	K—K 4
14 K—B sq	B—Kt 4	49 K—Q 3	K—B 5
15 Q x Q ch	R x Q	50 K—K 2	K—Kt 6
16 P—B 4 (i)	B x P	51 R—R 6	K—Kt 7
17 Kt-Q B 3	Kt—Kt 5 (j)	52 R—R 4	R—K 4 ch
18 Kt—B 3	R-K6, dis. ch (k)	53 K—Q 3	P—Kt 4
19 K—Kt sq	R x Kt (QB3)	54 R—R 5	K—Kt 6
20 B—Q 2	R (B 6)—Q 6	55 K—Q 4	K x P
21 P—K R 3	Kt—B 3	56 R—R sq	R—R 4
22 B—B 3	Kt—K 5	57 K—K 3	K—Kt 6
23 Kt—K 5	R—Q 8 ch	58 R—R 5	K—Kt 7
24 K—R 2	R x K R ch	59 K—K 4	R—R 5 ch
25 K x R	B—Q 4	60 K—K 3	P—Kt 5
26 B—K sq	P—B 3	61 R—R 4	R—R 6 ch
27 Kt—Kt 4	B x R P	62 K—K 2	P—Kt 6
28 K—R 2	B—K 3 (l)	63 R—R 7	R—R 8
29 R x P	P—Q Kt 3	64 K—K 3	R—K R 8
30 R—Kt 7	R—Q 8	65 R-KKt7(n)	R—R 6
31 B—B 3	B x Kt	66 K—B 4	K—B 7
32 P x B	R—Q Kt 8	67 R—K B 7	P—Kt 7
33 P—Kt 5	Kt x B	68 K—Kt 4, dis. ch	K—K 7
34 P x Kt	P x P	69 K x R	P—Kt 8 (Q) (o)
35 P x P	R—Kt 6		

Notes by Three of the Judges.

(a) Here we have a Queen's Gambit offered by the second player.

(b) Hardly to be commended. Kt—K B 3 is better.

(c) We prefer Kt—Q B 3 or B—B 4. He blocks in his Q B and gives White an opportunity to attack on the K side.

(d) This is a lost move. The B should not leave the diagonal which he commands when posted on Q 3.

(e) B—Q 3 or K 2 is better. The exchange of the long-range B for the Kt that is very limited in its scope, is a mistake at this stage of the game. Furthermore, Black gets his Q B into play.

(f) Castles is best.

(g) Bold, and—see 13th move.

(h) Followed up in fine style. Quite cunning, but the average player looks twice before he accepts such presents.

(i) The 16th and 17th moves are both forced. The contest here is close and hot, requiring great circumspection.

(j) R x Q Kt P, dis. ch., is a crusher, followed by Kt—B 4, etc.

(k) R x Kt P, dis. ch., is still best.

(l) B—Q 4 is better.

(m) He should start his 40th move here.

(n) White plays skilfully, and fights gallantly a "lost cause."

(o) At this stage the game was abandoned as a Draw, as the players had agreed to call it such if Black could not mate in fifty moves. This was submitted to the Judges, and as there was not an unanimity of opinion, the game could not be awarded to Black. One of the Judges says that this game is very interesting, has more spice in it than any of the others.

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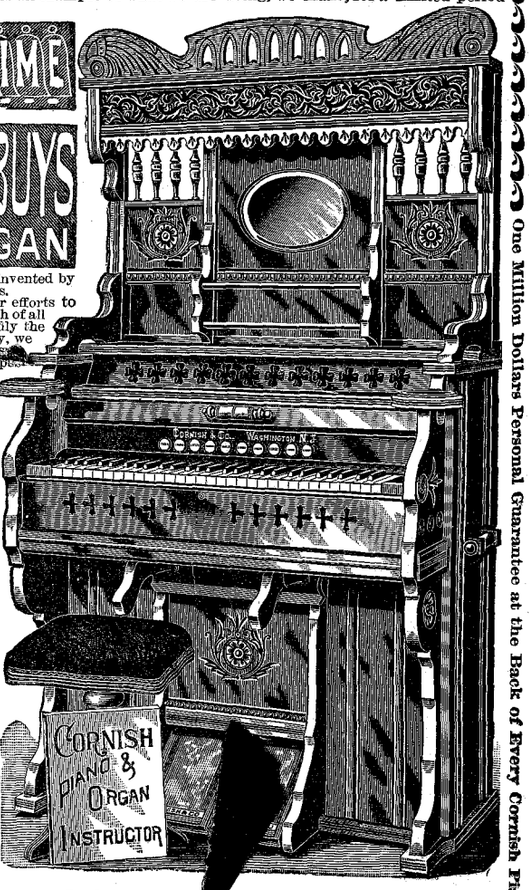

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